THE LION'S PAW SERIES

WHAT IS FREE-MASONRY?

VOLUME I.

By N. F. de CLIFFORD, M.D.

The Lion's Paw Series
Volume I

WHAT IS FREE-MASONRY?

BY

N. F. de CLIFFORD, M. D.

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"EGYPT, THE CRADLE OF ANCIENT MASONRY," ETC.

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This little volume is most affectionately dedicated

to my ideal of a true womanly woman

MY WIFE

FANNIE ELIZA DE CLIFFORD

—The Author.

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Foreword
To the Lion's Paw Series or Esoteric Masonry

By N. F. de CLIFFORD, M. D.

IN WRITING this series of volumes we shall confine ourselves FIRST —To the Origin and Antiquity of Masonry.

SECOND—To Morality — To the Duty that Man owes to his God, his country, his neighbor and to himself. We shall speak of Masonry and morality not only as it is being practiced today, but in every age of the world's history. We shall also go into the Religions of the world. We shall endeavor to show all who may read this series of books, that the system of Morality embodied in Masonry embraces the ethics of **all** Religions, **all** Science and **all** Philosophies that have ever existed upon the face of the earth. At the same time you my dear Brothers must distinctly understand that Masonry advocates no special Religion. It does not teach Buddhism, although the Free-Mason who has been "duly and truly prepared" thoroughly comprehends its basic principles as well as the Vedic mythology of Ancient

India. Masonry does not teach or believe in Sun worship, yet the **Master** Mason knows all the profound philosophical truths that underlie the Religions of the ancient Persians, Egyptians, Babylonians, Phoenicians, Peruvians, Britons, Scandinavians and the Sun Worshipers of the world universal. Masonry does not teach the Religion of Mohammed. Neither do Freemasons believe in its prophet as the inspired of God. Masonry does not teach or ask its members to practice Hebraism any farther than a belief in the **ONE,** Eternal, Everlasting, Supreme Architect of the Universe. Neither does Masonry teach Christ or Christianity. But it does most assuredly **Claim** that—**No ONE Religion has or contains the whole** of **TRUTH.** But it teaches every Freemason to believe and **positively know** that—each and every one does contain a part of the Eternal Verities of the Ancient Wisdom Religion that was taught by a Venerable Association or Brotherhood of ancient India. Freemasons believe in the **ONE ABSOLUTE EVERLASTING GOD,** a knowledge of whom passeth all understanding. Before whom all men bow in Awe and Adoration.

THIRD—In relation to the Allegories, Legends, and Symbols that permeates the whole of Masonry. We will endeavor to lift the veil and unfold to you their True meaning.

Religions of every age, from the most ancient to the present day, are filled with Allegories. We also find them permeating the mythologies of all nations and peoples. The Brahmins, Zarathustrians and ancient Egyptians used them. So did the Babylonians, Phoenicians, Peruvians and Scandinavians. And it

is a well known fact that the Jewish Rabbins used them in their religious teachings more freely than (perhaps) any other people. The Christian philosophy are full of them, in fact, Christ Himself taught in parables (Allegories). They seem to have been the favorite method adopted by the ancient members of our Royal Craft in order to hide from the profane their **Esoteric mysteries.** The Legends, Allegories and Symbols of Masonry are purely Allegorical. They teach us a knowledge of Life, Death and the Immortality of the Soul. All our Masonic Legends, Allegories and Symbols are perfectly and easily understood by those who have been "duly and truly prepared" and who have put themselves into a position to Receive and understand them. More especially is this so to him who has kept his **First Vow**—To subdue his passions and improve himself in Masonry.

In this series we will endeavor to unfold some of the most sublime **Truths** that are embodied in the Allegories and Symbolism of our most Illustrious Fraternity.

FOURTH—We shall find a most profoundly beautiful scientific philosophy in the Metaphysical and Ethical teachings of Masonry which are embodied in those Allegories and Symbols. We shall also find that those sublime teachings and that profound Scientific Philosophy have come down to us from a Venerable Association or Brotherhood of India known as **"The Great School of the Masters"** which have had a continuous existence from the Dawn of Civilization to the present day. It was from this source and from that country **(ANCIENT INDIA)** that our most Illus-

trious Fraternity originated. And long centuries afterwards it was cradled on the banks of the Euphrates and the River Nile, ages before the Hanging Gardens of Babylon were raised to gratify the whim of a daughter of Ebactana; or the foundation of the Great Pyramid was laid in the plains of Gizeh.

Ritualism and the Veiled Symbols of Masonry conceal the very essence and aroma of the Wisdom that belonged to that Venerable Association or Brotherhood of Masters, including the profound philosophies that were concealed in the Indian, Mazdean and Egyptian mysteries. And we want you to know, my dear Brothers and readers, that:—That Association of Masters is still in existence. **They hold the KEY to the solution of LIFE, DEATH and the IMMORTALITY OF THE SOUL.**

Before concluding this Foreword I desire to say, that—there is no question in my mind, but, that the earliest peoples in all countries throughout the whole world worshipped Nature in all her wonderful manifestations and differentiations. The sublimity and grandeur of mountain peaks, the raging torrents, waterfalls, the dark and silent rivers and hollow cliffs, as well as the dark mysterious caverns, the towering pines — all were no doubt worshipped **as emblems of their Gods.** In the same way the Sun, Moon and Stars as well as their differentiations were worshipped as gods.

Today as in the dim and misty ages of the past, we find Sun worshippers who ascribe to that glorious orb—God-like powers and attributes which we shall speak of in the body of this work. I do not believe

that any of the intellectual people of those various epochs in the ancient or earlier ages worshipped any of the above named Emblems or Symbols as the **TRUE** or **ACTUAL GOD.** But only emblematic of that **ONE GREAT ABSOLUTE CREATOR OR CONTAINER OF ALL THINGS.**

The greatest mysteries in the universe are those that are ever going on around us. So common to us that we seldom or never take note of them or even reflect upon them. Learned men tell us of the **Laws of Nature** that regulate the motions of the Sun, Moon, Planets and Stars in their orbits flashing along in tremenduous circles. Each and every one revolving upon their axis, shining in the infinitude of space with a refulgent glory inexpressibly grand and beautiful, moving with inconceivable rapidity through the infinitude of space. No wonder that man in the early ages ascribed God-like powers to them and worshipped them. For in those remote times God was a mystery to those people as He is to us of today—yes, my Brothers, everything in the universe that surrounds us is a mystery to us and to all men.

Life as an abstract idea, a Power or a Principle was but little understood or grasped by early man. But the manifestations and differentiations of Nature attracted his attention and he formulated ideas respecting them. And they like civilized men of all nations formulated Gods, to suit their own spiritual needs. And they endowed them with the peculiar attributes and general characteristics of the worshippers themselves.

The devotees of pre-Vedic India builded their most sacred shrines distant from the thronging multitudes. Very often we find their shrines upon the mountain heights, or in the depth of the jungle, far away from the haunts of men. There among the Riohis and Sages of ancient India is where we may begin our investigations for the proper understanding of the Morality, Allegories and Symbols of Masonry.

In my endeavors to elucidate these subjects I shall quote you from the Great Work by T. K., also from the other works of the Harmonic Series, from Morals and Dogma and my Egypt, the Cradle of Ancient Masonry. But my principle quotation will be from the Great Work by T. K., published by the Indo-American Book Company, 5707 West Lake Street, Chicago, Illinois.

N. F. de CLIFFORD, M.D., the Author.

Introduction

THERE have been numberless books written upon Masonry and Free-Masonry, and yet none of these Authors have given us any definite or positive information in relation to these subjects as the author of this little volume, "What is Free-Masonry?"

Brother de Clifford has gone out of the beaten path of all other writers, and as a result he has acquired a fund of information that is needed to enable a writer and instructor to give the **"LIGHT"** to illumine the pathway of those Master Masons who are searching and hungering for a knowledge of **"LIGHT AND TRUTH"** themselves.

The author of this little volume has given years of untiring zeal and energy in many lands. He has searched diligently for data in relation to the Origin and Antiquity of Masonry, what it stands for and what it teaches. He has spent years of Personal investigation among the Archives of the Nations of the East and the sacred writings of the world, and he has given to us in his **"EGYPT THE CRADLE OF ANCIENT MASONRY" More Light** than any other work that I have ever read on Masonry.

It is with great pleasure and gratification I have carefully perused the contents of this valuable addition to Masonic literature, and I do most sincerely

and earnestly hope that greater Knowledge and "More Light in Masonry" may be obtained by every Master Mason who reads this book. To that end I have the honor to present "What is Free-Masonry?"

GEORGE FORMAN APPLEGATE,
P. M. Trenton Lodge No. 5, F. & A. M., Trenton, New Jersey.

Preface to What Is Free-Masonry?

THE AUTHOR of this little volume has endeavored to answer the question in the following pages, **"WHAT IS FREE-MASONRY?"** by asking another question—What is Masonry? Because the writer could not tell anything about Free-Masonry, until you my dear readers and friends thoroughly understood—**What Masonry is.**

By simply telling you that—"Masonry is a peculiar system of Morality veiled in Allegory and illustrated by Symbols, that statement alone would not answer the question—What is Free-Masonry? Because Masonry is one thing and Free-Masonry another.

All my readers will notice the fact that—the words Free-Masonry divides itself into two distinct and separate parts or subjects as—Free Born, Free Will, Free Thoughts, Etc. Therefore, in order to answer the question — What is Free-Masonry? the Author has gone into the Origin of Masonry, proved its Antiquity, explained the system of Morality and shows you why it was veiled in Allegory and illustrated by Symbols.

In order to make the subject questions clear to you my dear Brothers, the Author has given you the results of his own personal investigations in foreign lands. He has traveled far and gathered diligently

from out the rich fields of Science and Philosophy of the ancient and the modern world, and he has brought his sheaves and laid them upon the Altar of Masonry for your Inspection. If what he has brought should meet with your approval the writer will feel that the last years of his life have not been wasted. Whether **you** will accept them as freely as they are given remains to be seen. But do not believe or accept one Word or Thought that I have written within these pages for your instruction until you have proven the TRUTH of my assertions for yourselves. If they do not stand the Test of your own personal investigations, I shall consider that you are not yet ready to RECEIVE that which would make you Free.

THE AUTHOR.

(A poem written by my Friend and Brother—J. H. Adams, of Birmingham, Alabama.)—The Author.

ART THOU A MASON?

Art thou a Mason? Ask thyself in truth,
  And search for answer in thy inmost heart.
Are all thy footsteps such that faltering youth
  Might follow? Does thy walk impart
By its uprightness that which Masons love?
  Hast thou, indeed, full trust in that dear Lord
Of all, who from His throne above
  Marks thy design upon Life's trestle board.

Art thou a Mason? Has thy Brother's sign
  Or summons passed thee all unheeded by
When sorrow swept him all along life's line
  And all the world forgot him? did'st thou try
To cheer him then, with all a Brother's love,
  And holding out thy hand bade him God speed,
And to the carping world thus show and prove
  The truth and beauty of a Mason's creed?

Art thou a Mason? Has the widow's sigh
  Smote on thine ear without responsive thrill
Of pity? hast thou never hear the cry
  Of orphaned children but thy soul would fill

Itself with recollections of a solemn charge
  That deep within its chambers fell,
And, thinking thus, did not thine heart enlarge,
  With generous action all thy feelings tell?

Art thou a Mason? Has thy selfish greed
  Made thee forget the Brother's "heart of grace,"
And has thy tongue forgotten all its need
  Of charity thro' life's mad, rushing race?
If so, forbear! All things ye must not know;
  And it is written in earth's history
Some sorrow must 'neath every bosom flow—
  And God alone can the heart's secret see.

Art thou a Mason — not alone in name —
  In deed? This will the Master's record tell;
His answer will be praise, or else eternal shame
  Be thine when "time shall sound its parting knell"
To summons thee to "stand before the bar;"
  Thy trembling soul shall then rejoice
If he but say: Thou craftsman! from afar
  Thy deeds have saved thee, enter paradise.

—J. H. Adams.

CHAPTER I

What Is Free-Masonry?

TO PREMISE my remarks in relation to this stupendous question so that you, my dear Brothers, may be enabled to thoroughly understand its true meaning, it will be necessary for me to ask another question, and that is—What is Masonry? and differentiate between — **FREE-MASONARY** and **MASONRY.** In order to do this I want you to distinctly understand that, Masonry is a peculiar system of Morality veiled in Allegory and illustrated by Symbols.

But in order to better define the word Masonry I shall be compelled to answer another question, which is—From whence did we receive this System of Morality, veiled in Allegory and illustrated by symbols?

In order to answer this last question fully and comprehensively it will necessitate my going into the Origin and Antiquity of Masonry. Then into detail in relation to the main or original questions, showing you that Masonry has a History, a Literature and a Philosophy, that it is founded upon an exact science, and that he who desires to thoroughly understand this progressive scientific philosophy embodied in its Allegories and Symbols, must read, study, reflect, digest and discriminate.

In the following pages I will endeavor to tell you what Masonry is, what it stands for, what it teaches and illustrate the subject matter fully and comprehensively. Masonry has stepped across the threshhold of the twentieth century, bringing with it all those sublimely grand and beautiful philosophic Truths that were taught, practiced and thoroughly understood long drifting ages before the Vedic hymns or Mantrams were first chanted under the shadow of the Hindu Kush or Himalaya mountains of ancient India. The home and birthplace of our great ancestors, the Aryans of that country. From which country and source Masonry has found its way to every corner of the world universal. And today the sun never sets upon our beloved and most illustrious fraternity, for it is always at its meridian height and glory with respect to Masonry.

The wisdom and intellectual development of the Rishis and Sages of ancient India, with the profound scientific philosophical truths which have been handed down to us of today, were studied, taught and practiced in the hoary ages of prehistoric civilizations of the dim and misty past, under the dawning light of a New Age and a New Race, by peoples whose visions were illuminated by the dying embers of the Atlanteans and Lemurians. Races that have passed or are passing away, but who have left behind them the very essence and aroma of their ancient wisdom, knowledge and wondrous civilization. The traditions connected with those older peoples have helped us on to a proper understanding of the Light, Knowledge and Truths taught in our Symbolic Lodges. But the Gnosis of

those teachings are now only taught behind the closed doors of the Lodges, Chapters, Councils and Consistories of our beloved Scottish Rite of Free-Masonry.

If any Masonic student who asks the question, "What is Free-Masonry?" or desires to know from whence it came and prove its antiquity, let him search for himself as I have, and his investigations will most assuredly lead him on to the same conclusions as myself—That the Origin and Antiquity of our beloved fraternity rests upon a foundation that can be traced back link by link into the most remote civilizations of the dim and misty past—thousands of years before Jesus of Nazareth preached the Beatitudes throughout Judea and gave to the Jews what **"Chrishna"** had preached and practiced and taught his people one thousand, two hundred years before the Master—Christ said, **"I am the Door," "The Way,"** and **"The Light."** Long years before the harp of Israel grew melodious with the songs of Sol-Om-On or King David bought the threshing floor from Ornan the Jebusite whereon to erect a temple to the most "High God of Israel," ages before the lawgiver—Moses, was lifted in his rush cradle from the flowing waters of the River Nile. Long drifting centuries before Abram crossed the plains of Mamre in company with Angels or paid his dues or tithes to the Hierophant of the Order of Melchizedeck or the Jews were a people. At which time all the profound scientific philosophical truths that were and are now embodied in the Allegories and Symbols of our beloved Fraternity were orally transmitted from **"Mouth to Ear"** by a Venerable Association or "Brotherhood" of Perfect Masters of ancient

India. And that all those profound truths have come down to us of the twentieth century through those long drifting ages from one generation to another.

There has never existed a time in the history of the world when the teachings of that Venerable Brotherhood were not being given forth or taught in order to help poor struggling humanity on to higher planes of intellectual and spiritual unfoldment, and we must distinctly understand that a vast number of our sublimely beautiful and glorious Masonic Truths are embodied in all Religions and all Philosophies, and that they are not **New Truths,** but they are as old as the stars. The volume of the Sacred Law tells us in the language of the writers: **"Ein Chodosh tacash ha Shemesh"** (There is not new under the sun) See Eccles. 1st Chp., 9th verse **et seq.,** That man would be more than a God who could invent or discover anything which has never been in existence before.

Ragon in "Maconnerie Occulte" tells us that:—Humanity only **seems** to progress in achieving one discovery after the other, as in truth it only finds that which it had lost. Most of our modern inventions for which we claim so much glory, are after all, things people were acquainted with three or four thousands years back. Lost to us through wars, flood and fire, their very existence became obliterated from the memory of man. And now modern Thinkers begin to **rediscover** them once more.

My dear brothers and readers, the farther back we go into the realms of prehistoric civilizations searching for the Wisdom and Knowledge belonging to the Brotherhood of a pre-historic age, the more will we

be confronted with unmistakable evidences of their great learning and most extraordinary intellectual and spiritual development. We will also recognize in the magnificent monuments of India, Assyria and the valley of the Nile, tokens of their wondrous knowledge in Astronomy, Geometry, Mathematics, as well as the state of perfection to which they had arrived in all Arts, Sciences and Philosophies. Besides these, we have proof positive of the existence of a science known to this Venerable Association or Brotherhood of ancient India, which men of the present day cannot properly understand or interpret, or at best only dimly sense.

Right here I will positively assert that—All Religions, all Philosophies and all Sciences for this race had their origin in the "Land of The Vedas," whose links in the chain of evidence can be traced back to its original source broken and disfigured as they are, yet, still with fragments here and there to connect us with the glory that belonged to the ancient Wisdom or "Secret Doctrine" of that Venerable Association or Lodge of Perfect Masters which was at its zenith and crowned with glory when Science, Religion and Philosophy walked hand in hand together.

This great Brotherhood inherited all the Wisdom belonging to the Atlanteans and Lemurians whose mighty traditions they thoroughly understood and comprehended. Because they had been "duly and truly prepared," but which cannot be told to all members of Free-Masonry as the great majority are not ready to **Receive,** consequently they would be unable to understand. This great Brotherhood were the orig-

inators of what we of today call **FREEMASONRY,** teaching a system of Philosophy that we of the present day are just beginning to understand. The teachings of Anaxagorus, Empedocles, Democritus and others are being taught today in our schools and colleges. Gallileo was not the first man to discover the motions of the earth. The rotation of this planet upon its axis, and the heliocentric system was taught by Pythagorus and others B. C. 700. As above stated the motions of the earth were understood at this early date, and yet, during the reign of the Emperor Constantine in the year A. D. 217 his son Crispus Caesar was taught by his preceptor Lactantius that:—the earth was a plane surrounded by the sky. That earth itself being composed of Fire and Water, and his venerable preceptor, the Holy Father, warned him against believing in the **heretical doctrine of the earth's globular form.**

What the world has lost through the bigotry and fanaticism of the early Church Fathers will never be fully realized by the present generation. But there is one very great satisfaction to all Free-Masons, and that is—**THE KEY** to the solution has never been lost, and the **Light** of the ancient wisdom of the Brotherhood will come forth once again as it did in the days of Eliola in the Golden Age of Egypt from the misty veil that enshrouds it for the benefit of Masonry in particular and humanity in general.

However superhuman the efforts of the early Church Fathers were to destroy our beloved Fraternity and obliterate our philosophy from the memory of man—they all failed. **Truth** can never be crushed out and killed or destroyed. Hence their failure to sweep

away entirely from the face of the earth not only Free-Masonry with its Legends, Allegories and Symbolism, but every other thing that was inimical to their faith and to shackle and gag or brutally murder every witness who testified to anything that they did not approve.

Let us think for one moment of the millions of priceless books and MSS. burnt, of monuments with their too indiscreet inscriptions and pictorial symbols pulverized to dust. Of the bands of early hermits and ascetics roaming around among the ruined cities of Upper and Lower Egypt, in desert or in mountain, valley and highland, seeking for and eager to destroy every scroll, papyrus or parchment that they could lay their hands on, if it only bore the symbol of the **Tau;** or any other sign borrowed or appropriated by the New faith—and we will then see plainly how it is that so little has come down to us of the records of our beloved Fraternity. Verily the fiendish spirit and fanaticism of the early Church Fathers as well as the followers of Islam has loved from the first to dwell in darkness or ignorance **rather than in Light and Truth.** It was just such things that I have just described that tore asunder and destroyed many of the links in the chain of evidence connecting Free-Masonry of the day with the Brotherhood of ancient India.

CHAPTER II

Investigations

After many years of research in India, Australia, Persia, Assyria, the valley of the Nile from Cairo to Khartoum and the Islands of the Southern Pacific ocean as well as this American continent from Canada to Patagonia I am positively certain that Free-Masonry is a lineal descendant of an ancient Association of Venerable Masters in India to whom I have so frequently referred in this chapter. I also **know** that the members of this Great Brotherhood were men whose lives and labors were and are **now** dedicated to the acquirement and perpetuation of knowledge in the broad and unlimited field of Science, Physical, Spiritual, Psychical and Ethical and the application and development of Individual Life, Individual Intelligence, Individual Conscience, Individual Liberty and Individual Happiness. The modern name of this ancient school or Venerable Association of Perfect Masters is:—THE SCHOOL OF NATURAL SCIENCE.

From this source ramified all the mysteries. Through the Indian, Mazdean, Egyptian, Orphic, Cabirian, Samothracian, Elusinian, Dionysian, Christian, Basillidian, etc. There is no question but every unprejudiced philosophical Masonic student will most assuredly find and recognize the connecting links between the Wisdom of ancient India and Free-Masonry of the

Twentieth Century. The Masonic student must not expect to find a regular unbroken chain of evidence running down from the hoary civilizations of prehistoric ages to us of the present day. But he will certainly be enabled to trace the links in regular lines of transmission. And though interrupted the proof of their continued existence will be unmistakable. The thread which connects it will mark its descent from Age to Age and Nation to Nation until we find it echoing through our Lodges, Chapters, Councils and Consistories of our beloved Scottish Rite of Masonry. Just as it did in those gopuras of India as well as in the cave temples of the Mazdean Hierophants and those stupendous fabrics that adorned the banks of the River Nile; long centuries before the couchant Sphinx looked to the East; ages before the foundation of the Pyramids were laid in the plains of Gizeh, or the "Temple of Light was closed, when Egypt became the Land of Darkness.

This Venerable Association or Brotherhood of India was the original source or depository of all those pure philosophical truths and exhaustless store of wisdom that are to be found in all Religions, all Arts, all Sciences and all Philosophies. In every epoch of the world's history these profound philosophical teachings have been given forth by the Great Brotherhood with all its harmonious system to all those who have been "Duly and Truly Prepared" and found worthy and well qualified to receive them. The Wisdom that was taught by that Venerable Association has never changed and it is in existence today with a continuous record of more than ten thousand years.

My dear brothers, right here I desire to thoroughly impress upon your mind—that each and every Masonic student who will search and think for themselves upon what they find among the sacred writings of other nations as well as our own sacred scriptures, and they will have proof positive that Free-Masonry could not nor did not originate with the teachings of Christ the Master. The Guilds and Builders of Rome or at the building of the Hebrew temple by Sol-om-on, although Christ and King Solomon were both members of our beloved Fraternity. Read for yourselves and you will surely know that Solomon was a Mason. You will also have positive proof that Christ belonged to a Brotherhood—not to the Sadducees, nor to the Pharisees, but that he belonged to the Essenees. He was a Master in Israel. Continue your investigations and you will find that he belonged to the **"higher bodies."** If you doubt me read very carefully the 7th Chapter of Hebrews and note carefully every verse from the eleventh to the end of the chapter wherein you will find the difference between the Jewish Order of Aaron and that older Order of Melchizedeck. After reading the 6th and 7th chapters of Hebrews turn to the one hundredth and tenth chapter of Psalms and to the fourth verse and you will find that King David was made a Priest forever after the Order of Melchizedeck. You will notice that King David was not made a "High Priest" as was the Master Christ, but simply a Priest. You, my brother, may ask the reason why? I answer—compare the character of The Christ and King David of Palestine and find the reason for yourself.

Now let us go back to the days of Abraham (see Genesis 14th chapter) wherein you will find that after he had received the news of his relatives having been carried into captivity he at once armed his servants and went forth to battle. He conquered the five Kings and released from captivity his Brother's son, Lot. Returning homeward flushed with victory, laden with spoils of war, he meets the Hierophant of the Order of Melchizedeck—the so-called King of Salem—the Prince of Peace, who brought forth bread and wine and blessed him. And Abram paid his dues (or tithes) unto him, which clearly proves that Abram himself belonged to that ancient "Order of Melchizedeck. Remember this was not a Jewish Order, and from the evidence of the volume of the "Sacred Law" or Holy Bible, it clearly shows that the Order of Melchizedeck was in existence long before the Jews were a tribe or a people. And I am positively certain that it was from this ancient Order of Melchizedeck that Abram received his knowledge of the One ever-living God, the God of the Jew and the God of the Christian.

I have referred you to our own Scriptures—the Bible or "BOOK OF THE LAW" in order that you might see and read for yourself the **truth** of my assertions, and thus enable you to trace for yourselves and find the connecting links in the chain of positive evidence that binds our beloved Fraternity of Scottish Rite Masonry to the Essenees—to the Order of Melchizedeck and to that Venerable Association or Brotherhood of Ancient India to which I have so often referred. And before proceeding any farther on this subject let me ask you to procure and read carefully

"The Great Work by T. K., published by the Indo-American Book Company, 5705 West Lake Street, Chicago, Ill., for it will give you MORE LIGHT than you ever dreamed of.

There is no question in my mind but that the Essenees were lineal descendants of the Order of Melchizedeck and that Venerable Association of India, a branch or lodge of which was founded early in the golden age by Eliola in Egypt. This was done by the express desire of the Venerable Masters themselves. It was established at the very beginning of Egyptian civilization, at which time the people were hungering and thirsting for just such profound knowledge and scientific revelations. It was this Great Lodge and its work which caused Egypt to develop to such glorious heights of intellectual and spiritual ascendency. The officers and members of that Great Lodge in the valley of the Nile labored earnestly and incessently, in obscurity and in secrecy for a period of four thousand years for the advancement of the cause and the uplift of humanity. Let me assure you my brothers, that the work of that Lodge was a mighty factor in the spiritual unfoldment and intellectual development of Egyptian civilization.

Eliola brought with him into the Land of Egypt when he established that branch of the Great Lodge of India, all the eternal verities of the ancient wisdom, which had been taught by the Venerable Brotherhood themselves. Here was the birthplace of our great ancestors—the Aryans of India, who most assuredly taught and practiced the sublimely beautiful philosophy which every Masonic student and intellectual

Mason so dearly loves in this glorious twentieth century. They are the self-same esoteric truths that were taught by the Rishis, Sages and Hierophants in the hoary ages of antiquity during the initatory services of the Venerable Masters, whose every act and thought had ever been for the upbuilding of Humanity. These were the Brothers who have preserved through every age the sublime truths and progressive scientific philosophy which has caused the learned men of every age to seek for the knowledge and wisdom that emanated from this Great Lodge of Perfect Masters. It is the same beautiful, harmonious system of philosophy that we are endeavoring to promulgate in the Lodges, Chapters, Councils and Consistories of The Scottish Rite of Free-Masonry today.

In relation to what I have said I want my readers to know that through all countries in the world, from the cave temples of India to those of Persia, Nubia; and through the valley of the Nile and its delta, as well as in Chaldea, Assyria, Greece, Rome and even among the tropical growth of long drifting centuries in Mexico and Yucatan are to be found at the present day monuments and ruins of temples covered with signs, symbols and hieroglyphic inscriptions going to prove beyond any doubt the antiquity of our beloved Fraternity and Scottish Rite Masonry. It also proves that—it has existed in each and every one of them, and if you will take the time and trouble to search and investigate for yourselves as I have in those Eastern countries, as well as our own, you will find that Free-Masonry must have originated in India and that it was cradled on the banks of the River Nile, beyond the dawn of authenticated history.

CHAPTER III

History

Speaking of **HISTORY,** before going any farther let us understand what History is and how it is divided.

HISTORY is a full and comprehensive account or record of all the events which have occurred among the various nations and peoples of the earth, giving a full and complete account of the rise and fall of nations throughout the world universal. Also, the various changes among them which have affected their political and social conditions as well as the topographical or geographical changes of every country on earth.

History is divided into three great epochs: The First — **ANCIENT HISTORY;** The Second — **MEDIEVAL HISTORY;** The Third—**MODERN HISTORY.**

Ancient History begins with the earliest events of historic records and ends with the fall of the Roman Empire A. D. 476. **Medieval History** is also known as the Middle Ages. It commences with the fall of the Roman Empire A. D. 476 and continues to the discovery of America A. D. 1492. **Modern History** extends from the discovery of America up to the present year and day.

The Christian Nations of the world begin their time or era from the Birth of Jesus of Nazareth, or, Christ the Master. **Mohammedans** begin their time or era from the Hegira or flight of Mohammed from the sacred city of Mecca in the year A. D. 622 of the Christian era. **The Romans** from the founding of Rome B. C. 753. **The Greeks** computed their time 776 years before Christ, or the first Olympiad; the Babylonians computed their time from the reign of Nabonassar B. C. 747.

History is also subdivided into **History of Civilization, Sacred History, Profane History, Ecclesiastical History and Civil or Political History.**

I have written this definition of History and its sub-divisions in order that you may realize the fact that—if you desire to follow the positive assertions made and given to us in our Rituals, you will most assuredly find it necessary to make an especial study of all kinds of history in order to prove the truth of the assertions therein made, that—"Masonry has been in existence from time immemorial, and the best men of every epoch of the world's history have been members of our Fraternity," consequently if you are earnest in your desire to prove the truth of what our Rituals tell us, search for yourselves; especially among the sacred writings of every nation and people and more particularly our own volume of The Sacred Law or Bible. Do not forget to study carefully CHRONOLOGY and GEOGRAPHY, for they are termed the EYES of History. For the one informs us **When** and the other the **Location** or place where the events have occurred. Because, CHRONOLOGY informs

us of the precise time that any incident or event occurred in History, and GEOGRAPHY the exact part of the world where the incident or event happened.

The "PHILOSOPHY OF HISTORY" treats of the events of the past in connections with their consequences and deduces from them certain principles which may serve as a guide to statesmen in conducting the "affairs of nations." Thus **History** has been called "Philosophy teaching by example," and as a very great writer and author has said, "Social advancement is as completely under the control of natural law as is bodily growth. The life of an individual is a miniature of the Life of a Nation."

If any of my readers are desirous of searching for proof of the Origin and Antiquity of Masonry I most earnestly ask them to follow the lines I have laid down above.

Before going farther into this subject I desire to quote you from — **"THE HISTORY OF FREE-MASONRY,"** by A. G. Mackey M. D. In his Preface on page vi, he informs us that "The second part of the work will pass out of the field of Myth and Legend and be devoted to the AUTHENTIC? **(Bold face and query mine)** or recorded history of Free-Masonry."

Rejecting as wholly untenable and unsupported by historical evidences the various hypotheses of the origin of the institution in the Pagen Mysteries in the Temple of Solomon, or in the Crusades, an attempt has been made to trace its birth to the Roman College of Artificers, which presents us with an almost identical organization of builders and architects. Following the progress of the Roman Masons of the

college through their works, to the different provinces of the Empire where they went accompanying the Legions in their victorious excursions, we would find the art of building was communicated by them to the Italians, the Spaniards, the Gauls and the Britons. . . . .

"The hypotheses sought to be sustained in investigating the history of Free-Masonry in the present work, succintly stated as follows: Operative Masonry is the basis on which Speculative Free-Masonry is founded . . . that is to say, the Lodges of Free-Masons of the present day are the successors of Operative Masons which existed all over Europe during the Middle Ages and up to the beginning of the eighteenth century. . . . .

"Free-Masonry can be traced only to an association of builders or architects. Every ceremony in the Ritual, every Symbol in the philosophy of Speculative Free-Masonry indicates—nay, positively proves, that it has been derived from and is closely connected with the art of building. The first Free-Masons were builders, they could have been nothing else. To seek for them in a mystical religious association of the ancient pagan mysteries, or in an institution of Chivalry as in the Knights of the Crusades would be a vain and unprofitable task. As well might we look for **the birth-place of the eagle in the egg of the crow** as to attempt to trace the origin of Free-Masonry to anything other than an association of builders."

Now my dear Brothers, with all due respect to Brother A. G. Mackey, M.D., and his opinions in relation to the Origin and Antiquity of Free-Masonry, I

shall simply say as the late General Albert Pike said, his premises are incorrect and consequently his conclusions are wrong. For if what he said were true, neither Solomon, King of Israel, Hiram, King of Tyre or Hiram Abif could have been—Three Grand Master Masons, and from his statements our Lodges could not have been dedicated to King Solomon and they ought not to have been dedicated to the two Saint John's, but rather to the **"COLLEGIUM FABRORUM"** or the **Guilds and Builders of Rome.** Besides, these claims of Brother A. G. Mackey, M. D., in his "History of Free-Masonry," knocks our Rituals all to pieces, and we have nothing to depend upon in relation to the Origin and Antiquity of our beloved Fraternity other than his erroneous statements and assertions.

I shall go into this subject fully and comprehensively later. But, before doing so, right here and now I want you my dear Brothers to distinctly understand my opinion in relation to Brother Mackey's statements and assertions and I will positively assert: **As well might one look for the birth-place of a Lion among a litter of puppy dogs as to attempt to trace the Origin of Free-Masonry to the Guilds and Builders of Rome, or any other practical operative Masons in Brick or Stone.** For Free-Masonry teaches the building of the Temple of Human Character through the development of the Faculties, Capacities and Powers latent within the Sanctuary of the Soul of every intelligent human entity. It also teaches Life, Death and the Immortality of the Soul, and I perfectly agree with Brother Mackey when he said—**"The first Free-Masons were builders. They could have been nothing else (Bold**

face mine) and I myself positively say and assert that —they were Builders, but, my dear Brothers, they were **BUILDERS OF MEN.**

When a candidate is initiated into our beloved Fraternity it symbolizes a birth into a New Life. He now finds himself surrounded by the Wisdom of the Ages, and yet he does not fully realize it. He first makes a Promise, afterwards a solemn declaration; he is then invested with an Obligation, the fulfilling of which and by keeping his Promise makes him in truth and deed a Mason.

He is now presented with the **Working Tools** of an Entered Apprentice Mason. They are symbolical of the only tools that will enable him to build his Temple of Human Character in accord with the Constructive Principles of nature and teach him how to keep his First Promise and enable him to **"Live the Life"** in accord with what Masonry teaches, and what Christ, The Master preached and practised to the people and the Brotherhood of Judea.

But as I have said above, I shall go into this subject more fully and comprehensively under the subject of the building of the Temple of Solomon, and the profound Symbolism of the Lambskin, or White Leather Apron. Also, upon the way it is worn, and why it should be worn in those particular ways and no other.

CHAPTER IV

Antiquity of Masonry

As we are endeavoring to prove the Origin and Antiquity of Masonry, we do most positively assert and declare that the very **name Free-Mason** will most assuredly prove not only its great antiquity, but the epoch and country from which it originated, and the why and wherefore of the name Free-Mason in the Golden Age of Egypt.

I have lectured in the great majority of the states and the larger cities throughout the union in relation to the Origin and Antiquity, Allegories, Legends, Symbols, Ritualism and have specially spoken upon the words **FREE-MASON** and **FREE-BORN.** I have also written upon the various subjects not only in my—"Egypt, The Cradle of Ancient Masonry," but in all my other writing as well.

Before going any farther let us come to a proper understanding of the word—**FREE-MASON.** In order to do this I will quote you from my "Egypt, The Cradle of Ancient Masonry," page 85 **et seq.**—"Now this brings us to a very important and interesting subject and one that should interest every Masonic student and Free-Mason throughout the world universal, and that is the—origin and meaning of the words—**FREE-MASON.** A thorough understanding of these

two words will verify the statements that are made in our Rituals that "Free-Masonry has been in existence from time immemorial, and that the best men of every epoch of the world's history have been members of our beloved Fraternity." It will also prove that our very name—**FREE-MASON** originated in the "Valley of the Nile thousands of years before Rhea Silvia fed the sacred fires upon the altars of Alba Longa, or the foundation of Rome was bathed in a brother's blood or the master Christ was born or dreamed of."

I do most positively assert and claim that Masonry originated in Ancient India and it was cradled on the banks of the Nile. Therefore in order to prove this fact I will state that the **"name" FREE-MASON** "Proves its antiquity as well as the country in which is was cradled," and this verifies my statement that it is a lineal descendent of The Ancient Egyptian Mysteries. But, let it be thoroughly understood that those so-called Egyptian Mysteries did not originate in Egypt. But, that those ancient Mysteries with all its profound and exhaustless store of Wisdom and Scientific Philosophy was the offspring of a far more ancient organization that was in the height of its glory long centuries before the Sphinx "Looked to the East, or, the foundation of the Pyramids were laid in the plains of Gizeh, and that organization was and is **"The Venerable Association of Perfect Masters of Ancient India,"** known today as the Great School.

The words Free-Mason did not originate in the Anglo-Saxon language, neither do they originate in the Latin or Greek, all of which they antidate by thousands of years, for they came down to us from the

Egypto-Coptic, a language that was used by the ancient Egyptians in the Golden Age of Egypt.

The Copts are most certainly the lineal descendents of the people who migrated from India to the "Valley of the Nile," and who adorned the banks of that river with stupendous specimens of cyclopean architecture. Their written language was expressed in three distinct forms. THE FIRST—was the Hieroglyphs. THE SECOND—The Hieratic, and THE THIRD—The Demotic. **The Hieroglyphs** were used by the Hierophants and Priests of Egypt to preserve all their sacred writings and thus veil from the profane all their secrets. **The Heiratic** was derived from the Hieroglyphs, both of which belongs to the Priesthood, while **the Demotic** was an offshoot of the other two. It was used principally by the people for commercial purposes.

I do not desire to enter into a long description of the writings of the Ancient Egyptians, but will simply state that, in the Egypto Coptic language the word—**PHREE** meant **Light, Knowledge, Wisdom** and **MASSEN** was the plural of **Mes** and signified—Children or Son's, hence we were known and are known today as children or **Son's of Light, Wisdom** or **Intelligence,** because **LIGHT** signified knowledge to the candidate or Initiate. It is that which every Brother is in search of—**"MORE LIGHT."** Thoth signified **the Intellect** and **mas** a child or son, consequently—**Thoth-mas** means child or son or Thoth or an Intellectual Man or Men of Intelligence.

RA was the **Sun-God** and **MES** the child or son, therefore **the Grand Ra-mes-as** was considered to be a child or son of the sun.

Now the origin and definition of the words **FREE-MASON** must most assuredly prove to the Masonic student and Master Mason and thinking brothers, the great antiquity of our beloved Fraternity. It will also prove that Masonry could never have originated from an Association of Guilds and Builders of Rome, or the practical operative masons of Europe who worked with brick or stone. They certainly builded magnificent Abbeys, Castles etc., throughout the whole of Europe. But, they never gave birth to our glorious Fraternity with its exhaustless store of profound philosophy, and as I have so often said they were, and are, two separate and distinct bodies. For Masonry is a peculiar system of **MORALITY** veiled in **ALLEGORY** and **ILLUSTRATED** by **SYMBOLS,** and its members are those who labor to build the Temples of Human Character in accord with the Constructive Principle of Nature in Individual Life.

The Practical operative Masons of the Guilds of Europe were architects and builders in brick and stone. They worked to beautify and adorn the various cities and towns throughout the whole of Europe. There is no doubt but they traveled from town to city and from one country to another. **But we must distinctly understand that neither the Science of Architecture or Masonry ever originated from the "Collegium Fabrorum" or the Guilds and Builders of Europe.** There is no question but that there was an institution or organization in the early days of Roman

History which was known as **Collegium Artificium or Collegium Fabrorum.** We also believe that this College of Artificers were composed of prominent Architects and Designers. And no doubt some of the better workmen who labored under their more intellectual instructors may have been members of our Fraternity. We do most assuredly admit that this Organization or Association of workmen to be the founder of the various Guilds of Operative Masons throughout the whole of Europe. We also admit that from these various Guilds of Operative Masons in brick or stone, sprang those men who claimed and assumed the title of "Traveling Free-Masons." We do also believe and admit that the members of these various Guilds were bound together by certain Rules and Regulations for their government and preservation. But we do most emphatically assert and declare that—the Guilds of European Builders and our glorious Fraternity were two separate and distinct Bodies.

Let me make this more plain to you by stating that —All our Labor Unions of today are separate and distinct bodies from the Druids, Odd-Fellows, Knights of Pythias, Red Men, Forresters, etc. Yet we positively know, that many of those who are members of a Labor Union, are also members of the different Orders mentioned above. In the same way there is no question, but, that the most prominent, and intellectual men who composed the various Guilds of Operative Builders, were also members of our Fraternity. They applied as all other who had gone before and were found to be Worthy and well qualified to enter our

portals, and receive "The Light." After they had received "Masonic Light," they then fully realized that the profound Wisdom and Scientific Philosophy that belonged to pre-historic civilizations, were embodied in the peculiar system of Morality, Allegories and Symbology of Masonry.

We must distinctly understand that all those who belonged to the practical Operative Guilds, could not become members of our Royal Craft for this reason—outside of their own profession of skilled workmen, they were extremely ignorant. Their Moral and intellectual qualifications would preclude them. They were not nearly so well informed as the ordinary American mechanic or laborer of today. Consequently if they had not the necessary qualifications, it would be simply impossible for them to enter the portals of our most Illustrious Fraternity.

Let me assure you, my brother, that the sublimely beautiful teachings embodied in the Ethics of Masonry, has, and ever will be in existence. And it did not require the building of a Temple by Solomon, King of Israel, to demonstrate the depth of profound Morality or the sublime scientific philosophy that belongs to our Fraternity. For I have shown, or shall show you that Masonry has had a continuous existence through every epoch of the world's history.

Surely the very name **PHREE MASSEN** (Free-Mason) ought to convince the most skeptical Master Mason from whence it was derived and prove that it descended to us from Egypt in her Golden Age. This fact will demonstrate beyond the shadow of a doubt that Masonry is far older than The Golden Fleece or

Roman Eagle, or Rome herself. The Coptic language was in substance the same as the spoken language of Ancient Egyptian origin. It follows that it must have been connected with some Ancient Egyptian Brotherhood or School, or the Mysteries of that Ancient civilization. We positively know that the instructions and Wisdom taught in the One was identical with the other up to a certain epoch in the Life of that Nation. The esoteric teachings of both Masonry, and that more ancient School have ever been a guide for the Neophyte, to a higher plane of Spiritual unfoldment. In order to reach this higher plane our Solicitant must begin his Constructive Spiritual Development by a careful study of Ethics or Morality and above all the practice of Moral Principles. In doing this our Brother will be enabled to fully develop all those Faculties, Capacities and Powers that lie dormant in the sanctuary of his Soul. He will them be enabled through Personal Effort, Practice, Self-Control —Keep his First Promise and "Live The Life."

If any earnest Masonic Student will devote a little of his time and study for himself the sacred writing of our own Scriptures, as well as those of other countries, and search for the Origin and Antiquity of Masonry, he will most assuredly find that it rests upon a foundation that can be traced back into the most remote civilizations of the dim and misty ages of the past. At which time all the profound truths that were then and are now embodied in the Science of Morality, Allegories and Symbols which were **orally** transmitted from **mouth to ear.** And they will also find that it came down to us through long drifting ages from one gen-

eration of people to another. One thing is certain they will find very little in common between the Guilds and Builders of Rome and our Fraternity.

I have shown from the words Phree-Massen, and also proven that Masonry does not in any way refer to the Builders of Rome or any other country. But it does most assuredly refer to the Builders of Men and they were known through every age as Children of, or Sons of Light. And Albert Pike in Morals and Dogma refers to the members of our beloved Fraternity as the **CHILDREN OF LIGHT.** What I earnestly desire to impress upon your Mind and Soul is that our beloved Fraternity with all its profound philosophies, Ethics, Legends, Allegories and Smybolry never developed among the practical Operative Guilds of either Rome or Europe. But that it came down to us from the "Land of the Vedas," the birthplace of Masonry and our great ancestors, The Aryans of India.

I earnestly ask my readers to procure a copy of the "Great Work by T. K.," published by the Indo-American Book Co., 5705 West Lake Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. And I specially request you to read Chapter IV **"THE LINEAL KEY."** And I do most assuredly believe that from a Masonic historical viewpoint you will find it to be one of the most wonderful, instructive, and entertaining essays or themes ever written on the Origin and Antiquity of Free-Masonry. Every intelligent Masonic Student and Master Mason should obtain a copy, read it carefully and study it. Because, it will prove to him or them beyond all question that the Masonry of today is simply an offshoot of a far

more Ancient Association than the **"Collegium Fabrorum of Rome.** And I want to once more repeat that the foundation of Masonry was never stained with a brother's blood. But it was laid in Harmony, Peace, and Love, by that Ancient Brotherhood of Perfect Masters who had associated together for the express purpose of perpetuating that exhaustless store of Wisdom to which they had attained in the hoary civilizations of the past. It will also prove that Jesus of Nazareth was an initiate. That he studied in India where he became thoroughly acquainted with those profound Moral Principles which He afterwards gave so freely to the people of Judea. It also informs us that Buddha and The Christ were both Masters, and that they both worked with a unity of spirit and of purpose. And their differences are those of method only, and not of substance.

Buddha and Christ were expounders of spiritual and psychic laws, under widely different conditions. They differed also as individuals. They differed in personal attainment, character and method. As a result we have two philosophies colored by the individuality of their teachers. Though both systems are based upon the same principles, they are very unlike in outer form and creed.

Each of these teachers expressed his individual concepts of spiritual principles and of human responsibilities. Each employed the method which appeared as best adapted to the intellectual and moral development of his own time and Race.

Buddha founded an order of ascetics vowed to poverty and beggary. He taught a literal renuncia-

tion of material comfort and of natural human ties as the life of highest attainment. He saw in a life of seclusion and introspection what appeared to him a higher life than one which shared the common activities and the common joys of human life. The fundamental doctrine of Buddha was the **sacredness of all life.** The fundamental characteristics of the man was **reverence for Law.**

Christ, on the contrary, conducted an active ministry in fellowship with "publicans and sinners." He did not found an order nor adopt a distinctive garb. While he did not exalt himself, neither did he abase himself, with shaven head and begging bowl. He preached temperance without imposing austerities. He neither condemned the natural activities of men nor disparaged natural human relations. The church he attempted to found was one not built by hands, nor was it symbolized by priestly garb nor priestly authority. The fundamental doctrine of the Nazarene was the **universal brotherhood of man.** The fundamental characteristics of the man were **Compassion, Pity and Love.**

The method adopted by Buddha would have found no response among the Jews and Gentiles of Judea. However, the truths taught by Buddha were the same as those laid down by the later teacher. Who that knows the spirit of the age will venture to say that the method of teaching employed by Christ would be effective in this age of scientific skepticism.

My dear brother so that you may better understand my reason for you to procure the **GREAT WORK** permit me to quote you a few more passages

taken from the IV Chapter or **"LINEAL KEY:"** "The present purpose is to give to the reader an intelligent, Lineal Key by means of which he may trace every religion or philosophic movement to its natural antecedents and determine with unerring certainty to which of the two great antagonistic world forces it belongs.

"With such a Key in his possession he may know with accuracy whether any such movement stands for Light or Darkness, Freedom or Slavery, Evolution or Devolution, Construction or Destruction. . . . .

"From the early dawn of civilization to the immediate present, so far as we are able to determine, two active and opposing psychological forces have been and still are engaged in a seemingly irrepressible conflict over the status and legitimate function of individual intelligence in its relation to humanity as an aggregate organism.

"These two great forces divided and stand opposed to each other, upon the vital and fundamental problem of Man's rights and privileges, duties and responsibilities as an individual intelligence.

. . . . "Far along the backward path of human history, at a point so remote as to confuse all our unscientific ideas concerning the date of 'Creation,' or the birth of man, the first mentioned of these two great pschological world forces—that which we have designated as 'Constructive'—crystallized into a definite human organization. That organization was and is, the Venerable Brotherhood of Ancient India, herein referred to as, 'The Great School' and whose modern-

ized and adapted name is 'The School of Natural Science. . . . .

"The other of the two great world forces—that which has been denominated the 'Destruction'—was ultimately crystalized into a great and powerful organization with its active center of radiation and power in Egypt. This was the 'School of Black Magic' or of 'The Black Art' which in later form came to be known as the 'School of Egyptian Paganism.'

Among the most prominent and important movements that are lineally descended from and directly related in principle to the Great Parent School of India are:

FREE-MASONRY, both ancient and modern.

Buddhism, in its origin and primitive character.

Primitive Christianity, as exemplified by the Master Jesus.

Protestant Christianity, in so far as this stands for a protest against the Paganizing of **Primitive Christianity.**

Among the many and various organic movements that are lineally descended from and directly related in principle and method to the Great Parent School of Egyptian Black Magic are:

Paganism, both Egyptian and Roman.

Mohammedism, both primitive and modern.

The Greek Church, both primitive and modern.

ROMAN CATHOLICISM in the present form.

My dear Brother, before going farther into this subject let me give you some information in relation to the word **MAGIC** and its definition. Because I have

spoken of the "Great Parent School of Egyptian Black Magic."

The **T. K.** informs us, that: "It is the individual exercise and use of the natural powers of the Body, Spirit and Soul in controlling and applying the forces, activities and processes of Nature.

MAGIC—Magia in its esoteric sense means: **The Great Life or Divine Life in Spirit.**

The root of the word is **Magh.** In Sanskrit it is the same as **Mahat.** In the Zend it is **Maz.** In the Greek it is written **Megas.** And in the Latin **Magnus.** In all these languages its signification is **Great.**

Esoteric science is, above all, the knowledge of our relations with and in divine Magic—inseperableness, from our **Divine Selves.** The latter meaning something else beside our own higher spirit.

Nearly every intelligent Christian knows the name of **Simon Magus.** Because he is mentioned in the **Acts.** But who among them all can tell us of his **Great Powers.** He was a great Magician. So was his direct disciple **Menander A Samaritan** by birth. He was the successor of **Simon** and reached the very height of the Science of Magic. Both Simon and his pupil attained to wonderful powers in enchantments, which the Christians claimed to be the handiwork of the Devil. **Yet the Divine Miracles of the Master Christ** and the Apostles or of Moses and Aaron have never been explained any more than those so-called Sorcerers and Magicians of Ancient and Modern times. Every true Mason as well as we of the School do not believe in supernatural phenomena. And we laugh at the word "Miracle." For a Miracle is something

we do not at first understand. But when we do it is no longer a Miracle. But simply an effect produced by certain causes set in motion by the intelligent Laws of God or Nature, by he who knows how to manipulate those wonderous Laws, through and by his greater knowledge of the Constructive Principle in Nature.

The source and basic principles of Magic lies in the Spirit and the Thought. All those who know and understand how to manipulate those Laws have learned by **Personal Effort** and profound meditation. For this is the **KEY-NOTE** to Esoteric Study. **Iambilicus** speaking of the Divine Science of **Raja Yoga** tells us that "Magic is a lofty, sublime Science, and exalted above all others." It is the great remedy for all. It neither takes its source in, nor is it limited to the Body or its passions, to the human compound or its constitution. But all is derived by it from our **Divine Ego** which runs like a silver thread from the Spark in us up to the primal Divine Fire. It means to me that I have the power of doing Good or Evil. It also points out to me—If I desire to subdue my passions and improve myself in Masonry I must "Live The Life" and work out my own Salvation through thinking and acting Right.

We positively know that Roman Catholicism is the immediate offspring of the Great Parent School of Egyptian Black Magic. And we also know that Free-Masonry received its credentials as a Progressive School of Moral Science from the Parent School of India. In the ancestral records are contained all there is of Allegory, Symbolism, Mysticism and Ethics in

Modern Free-Masonry. Even our Blue Lodge Masonic ritual of today is but a modern English adaption of the ancient ceremonial of initiation into the "Temple of the Sacred Mysteries." From the Ancient School of Natural Science, therefore Free-Masonry received the inspiration which has made it throughout the past and makes it today the consistent, open and acknowledged champion of individual human liberty and the unselfish defender of the widow, the orphan, the downtrodden, and the oppressed.

And so it also now can be understood why Protestant Christianity is held by the Church of Rome in the attitude of an hereditary enemy. This is because the Protestant movement represents in large measure a direct protest against Egyptian and Roman Paganism. In just so far as this is true, it stands for primitive Christianity, which is a direct lineal descendant of the Parent School of India.

CHAPTER V.

Prerequisites for a Mason

Before any person can be initiated into a Masonic Blue Lodge the applicant must be a **Man.** Perfect in all his parts. **FREE-BORN,** of lawful Age. He should come of his own **Free Will and Accord.** He must come **well recommended** and have been heard of under the **Tongue of Good Report.** Should these conditions be truthfully proven he will have no difficulty of going the way all Brothers and Fellows have gone before. He will be enabled to pass between the columns and receive that which every brother is in search of, **"LIGHT."**

Before proceeding with a treatment of the subjects embodied in this Chapter I wish to say: Every Man and Brother who desires to thoroughly comprehend Masonry must be endowed with intellectual qualifications, in order to be enabled to understand and appreciate the granduer and Sublimity of its teachings. Therefore, if he is not intellectually inclined he will never rise above the foundation of the Symbolic Degrees, and consequently he will become a mere **drone** in the busy Hive of Masonry instead of an **Active Worker.** He will most certainly go through the various ceremonies of Initiation, Passing and Raising. He will most assuredly receive the Degree of a Master Mason. But he will never understand the true meaning of that Sublime Degree. Neither will he become

a Master himself until he has solved the problems of the preceding Degrees and their profound philosophical meaning, and thoroughly understands the sublime teachings that permeates those ancient ceremonies. **Then and then only** will he realize the true meaning of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth. If he be true to his Vow and to his O. B. he will be true to himself and his fellowman, and he will labor incessantly for the benefit of others. He will also, to the best of his ability, endeavor to point out to them the Path That Leads to Light and Truth. Thus he will help them on to a knowledge of the Laws of Love and Righteousness, and himself on to higher planes of Spiritual unfoldment.

THE FIRST of the pre-requisites for admission into a Masonic Lodge is that the applicant be a **"MAN."**

SECOND he must be **"FREE-BORN."** Now, my dear Brothers, if we carefully analyze the true meaning of these two words we shall find that they do not refer in any way to **physical slavery.** But rather to Spiritual or **Mental Bondage.** In the first case physical Slavery is capable of being thrown off in many ways by the one enslaved. But Mental Bondages is most difficult to escape. The bondage of the Soul is unspeakably more harmful to the individual so bound, than he who is held in physical bondage as a simple slave. One is compelled to believe, according to what others tell him. The other being held in simple physical bondage is permitted to believe in accord with the dictates of his own conscience and work out his own Salvation.

We find many men who were born Slaves that proved themselves to be most eloquent Teachers of Morality and Moral principles. Take for instance Epictetus, who was born as history informs us, somewhere about the middle of the first century of the Christian Era. The exact date of his birth is not known. This man was born in Physical bondage, yet he was **Mentally-Free.** His writings prove him to be one of the greatest philosophers of the **Stoic School.** It is positively certain that he was not only a slave, but a cripple. It is related that he was injured by the cruelty of his master who subjected him to severe torture. While he was suffering Epictetus said to him: "If you continue you will break my leg." He had hardly spoken when the limb broke and the philosopher added quite calmly: "Did I not tell you what would happen."

He believed and wrote that the true aim of Man was to live in conformity with the Constructive Principle in Nature. To obey the internal voice of the Soul. To obey the Law. **To Live The Life.** He also taught that every man should submit without complaining to that which was not in their power to prevent. And it is positively certain that he practiced what he preached and taught.

It would be of little use for me to go into detail, in relation to the Doctrine of Epictetus. I might quote you from selections of his discourses and show you that he deals with nothing but the ethical teachings of **Stoicism,** and with these only in their simpliest forms and he states them so clearly and directly, that no one can miss their meaning. It is enough to say

that the **One** thought that underlies all the discourses is that of **FREEDOM**—freedom from Servitude to the varying accidents of human life—from Servitude to Pleasure as well as to pain, to hope as well as to fear, to one's passions, as well as to the domination of others.

He was resolved, with a power that has never been surpassed, that none of these things should have control over him, that Spiritually he would be a FREEMAN. And he felt in the Stoic Morals he had found, the means of his infranchisements. This Stoic plan of Salvation, which he announced to his disciples, with all the energy of his nature, can be stated in a word. **FREEDOM** from all that binds and enslaves the individual **Will** can be secured simply by recognizing that the Will is within its own sphere, potentially supreme, and that the only thing in the world that has any real value for a reasonable mind **is the character which the Will in its Freedom works out.** Within this sphere of individual FREEDOM lie man's only good and evil, as well as his personal worth and dignity for there he is **Master** of his fate. There he may have Good if he **Wills** it or Evil if he selects. Beyond this sphere on the other hand where **Freedom ceases there ceases also choice, responsibility and character.** And whatever happiness there is whether Good or Evil, but absolutely indifferent to the intelligent Will and to Rational desire. With regard to the whole course of Life, accordingly, there is but one possible rule of conduct, namely, to make the best use of whatever is in one's power and take the rest as it happens, as it pleases God. He who follows this rule will most assuredly

attain his desire, **FREEDOM**—will in fact, be as God, not merely Knowing, but also controlling Good and Evil. Does the Tyrant, says Epictetus, want my head? Let him take it. Has my Friend died. I will bear the inevitable without complaint. Does Starvation threaten me and my children? Let it come if it must, for it can bring me nothing worse than death, which is nothing. But, in whatever, relates to my character, my dignity, my serenity, **I am Master.** And no power in heaven or on Earth shall move me from my course one hair's breath, or balk my desires.

My dear readers and friends, in this account of Epictetus, I have shown you that although he was held in physical bondage he was most assuredly **Mentally Free.** He could believe according to the dictates of his own Conscience. There was no power on earth, or in the heavens above that could destroy his attitude of Mind or Soul. His Master could destroy the physical body, but he could not destroy his **Mental Freedom.** Therefore, I intend showing you from a Masonic viewpoint, what kind of Man our beloved Fraternity considers the words Free-Born to mean. But, before going farther in this subject I would like to quote you from our **DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.** This sublimely beautiful sentiment is one of the grandest that ever emanated from a human brain. It will stand forever as a monument to the Spirit of Masonry and the Brother who wrote it:

"We hold these truths to be self-evident." That all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with **certain inalienable Rights,** that among these are **Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness;**

that to secure these Rights Governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed. That whenever any form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or abolish it and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to affect their Safety and Happiness.

It was the same Spirit and a Kindred intelligence that formulated these profoundly significant words constituting the preamble of our National Constitution.

We, the People of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the Common Defense, promote the general Welfare and secure the **Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity,** do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

At every point in the onward and upward progress of our National evolution, it has been the same broad, gracious but uncompromising spirit of individual Liberty, together with an unfaltering love of human Freedom and its unquenchable thirst for knowledge and education that has thus far defeated the subtle and persistent efforts of opposing forces to subvert and subordinate the power, the dignity and the vitality of the State to ecclesiastical authority and control.

CHAPTER VI.

Roman Catholicism

From a Masonic standpoint children who are born of **bigoted** Roman Catholic parents are never **Free-Born,** neither can they be considered to be Free. You may ask, Why? I answer: Because they are born in **Mental Bondage.**

In the pre-natal existence of the child the Mother weaves into every fibre of its being, her own attitude and belief in Holy Mother Church. The child is instructed, from the time it can understand what is said. Then it is firmly impressed upon the Mind and Soul of that child that Obedience to the commands of the church is the only essential Obligation resting upon it. Every child thus born is compelled to believe that the greatest of all sins is disobedience to the **Holy Mother Church** and its absolute authority over them. They are also taught to believe from their infancy that the Church or its representatives, the Priests, posses the divine power of forgiving the sins of its children. That there is no sin so black or degrading that the Church will refuse forgiveness to any member who is able and willing to pay the price **"in good and lawful money,"** which the Church or its duly accredited representatives and financial agents—The Priests demands.

In that particular Church the honest Student of Psychology is constantly shocked and amazed to find

that all things Spiritual and Psychical as well as celestial, terrestial and in heaven as well as on earth have been reduced to a purely commercial basis. And in this country are valued only in **dollars and cents.** It would be very difficult to find a priest or even a member of that Church in good and regular standing who would publicly admit its truth. But this does not alter the fact, in the least, nor in any way or manner modify their meaning nor mitigate their effects.

The Pope and his College of Cardinals are the only people in this Church who are independent. In them only is all the power. The balance are superstitious and bound by Fear, to absolute Obedience. The few wield absolute Power. **They Command Obedience.** The many Obey.

Can you not see from the above, my dear Brother and readers that a child born from bigoted Roman Catholic parents is at birth dedicated to **Superstition, Obedience and Fear.** Do you not realize that there is no Freedom of Thought or Conscience, or in fact, Freedom of any kind to any one who is bound by Superstition, Dread and Fear? I tell you my dear Brothers; no man who calls himself a Roman Catholic should ever be permitted to enter the portals of our beloved Fraternity. The Master of a Lodge who knowingly, allows, such an one to be admitted into that Lodge should be compelled to surrender his Charter. No born Roman Cotholic who has not given unmistakable evidence that he has repudiated and forever thrown off the fetters that bound him to the Romish Church should be admitted to membership in our Royal Craft upon any consideration whatever.

Before proceeding farther, let me point out to you, that there are two great Spiritual Schools, one of which has developed, and the other has endeavored to dominate human Intelligence and Conscience throughout the Ages. Those two Great Silent, powerful and vitally antagonistic currents which at their intersection have given to the world an Exodus, a Crucifixion, an Inquisition, a Protestation and a Reformation.

CHAPTER VII.

Scottish Rite Philosophy

I am exceedingly desirious of showing you that it is the duty of every Brother Master Mason to labor earnestly and incessently to guard the portals of our Fraternity against all those who are not worthy or well qualified to enter. It is also the bounden Duty of every member of the so-called York Rite of Masonry to labor for the advancement of his Brother, both Mentally and Morally, as we of the Scottish obedience. They should also teach him, that it is by the development of the intellectual qualifications that Man begins to learn something about himself and the potential forces that are latent within him. As we do in the School of Natural Science and the philosophical Degree of the Scottish Rite of Masonry of the Southern Jurisdiction.

The acquisition of knowledge is a gift, as it were, to some. But, every living, thinking, intelligent, human being, with a well balanced brain has the potentiality of acquiring knowledge and becoming wise by deep thought and earnest study. He must first learn to Think and Reason for himself. For as a man Thinks in the depth of his heart so he becomes. If he follows this line of study, it will not be long before he will begin to realize that the Key Note to **WISDOM is MEDITATION.** Then will he be enabled to trample beneath his feet the snarling serpents of

Bigotry, Ignorance, Intolerance, **Fanaticism and Falsehood.** In doing this he will not only help Masonry in particular, but humanity in general, by showing the **Light of Truth** in **Free-Thought** and **Free-Speech.**

Free Masonry tolerates all Religions and does most emphatically claim and assert that **no Man,** or body of Men, living or dead, has the right to dictate to another what he shall or shall not believe. Masonry also claims, and positively asserts, that every Man has a perfect right to believe according to the dictates of **his own conscience.** Unless a Man is allowed Freedom of Thought he is not a Free-Man at all. If Man is possessed of Free-Will and is not permitted to exercise it, by following his own Reasoning Faculties and Powers **WHERE IS HIS FREEDOM?**

Every Religion and the so-called Truths of Inspired writings, depend entirely upon the testimony of Man himself. The evidences brought forward by him are produced as proofs of the Truth of his assertions. Masonry claims and positively asserts that all men have the Right to judge of the Truth of the claims put forward, and to examine the proofs of the various so-called "inspired" writings and then to judge them from a commonsense standpoint. Then if they stand the test of their searching investigations it is Truth for them.

Man becomes what he **WILLS** himself to be. He can never get outside the world he makes for himself. **Death** cannot destroy the seeds that he hath sown, for in good time they all will ripen and he will reap the fruition thereof. No confession, no repentance, no sacrifice or imploring of God, Pope, Priest

or the Devil can ever change the Mighty Law of Personal Responsibility. Whatsoever a Man soweth, that, and not something else, shall he reap. The hand that smites him **is his own.** That which we are doing today and shall do tomorrow are contributing to form the true character, according to which we are to be judged. A man's faith belongs to himself alone and he is **Personally Responsible and Morally Accountable** for his **Thoughts and Acts.** His Freedom consists, in being enabled to **Think and Reason** for himself, without let or hindrance, from any source at all whatever. He should strive incessantly to subjugate the animal within the sanctuary of his own heart. He should strive earnestly and incessantly to keep his first Promise. When he has conquered Self, he is worthy of more honor, than he who hath conquered a thousand cities, because he has conquered the Kingdom of his own Soul. In doing this he will have kept his FIRST PROMISE. For he will have learned how to subdue his passions, and in doing this, he will have improved himself in Masonry.

Every **Scottish Rite Mason,** who is true to his vows, has ever labored to give humanity Freedom of Thought, Freedom of Speech and a Free Government, for the People and by the People. And every **Brother Master Mason** who has the good of the Fraternity at heart, is a **Priest of Truth,** of Toleration, of Philosophy and of Rational Liberty. And it is his bounden Duty. FIRST:—To take Tyranny, Injustice and Unsurpation, by the throat and strangle them. And by the assistance of his Brothers endeavor to **Free the Human Race irrespective of Creed, Caste or Color,** from all

who would enslave it. **SECOND,** to Free his own country from Despots and Despotism. In doing this Masonry will give to the People, both Temporal and Spiritual Freedom, which includes all the inalienable **RIGHTS OF MAN.**

To ever labor for the upbuilding of the human Race is the bounden Duty of every Scottish Rite Mason. For from what they have learned in our Ineffable and Philosophical Degree, they will positively know, that the greatest of all gifts to **MAN** is **MANHOOD.** They will also know that, **True Manhood** can never be found in the mumbling chants and invocations of Romish Priests, Secterianism or Religious Dogmas and Creeds. Our beloved Fraternity teaches us that our main **Object and Duty** in life is, to do our Duty **to all men,** even to the neglect, of our own personal comfort. It also teaches us, to strive to make others happy, because it is our **duty** to do so, without hope of fee or reward. Happiness, will surely follow the Man, or Mason, who **Cheerfully** performs his Duty. At the same time self-gratification should never be the incentive, to do good, but to do it, because, it is Right for us to do so—Let us ever remember, that in plucking the weeds, from our neighbor's garden, we plant roses in our own. But, we must not do it for the sake of the roses, do it, because it is our own **Duty** to do so.

God commands us to do good, so the volume of the Sacred Law informs us. And Altruism, has ever been taught, by all the great Reformers, long centuries before our present Christian era. It is still taught and preached, but is seldom or never practiced. If man would only practice what the School of Natural

Science and the Scottish Rite of Masonry, of the Southern Jurisdiction teaches, **Mankind** would be far happier and this world would be a veritable paradise.

Masonry teaches all, its members, to recognize in the whole Human Race, one great family, of which you and I, my dear Brother, are a part. Every true Master Mason, and Knight Kadosh, will ever labor, for the uplift of his fellow man and Brother, in order to improve their condition, both Mentally and Morally. It is their **Duty,** to teach them, never to submit to Oppression, Injustice and Usurpation. And whose Watchwords are—Humility, Patience and Self-Denial. They are always ready and willing to hazard their lives, for the welfare of their country and the interest of humanity, and to sacrifice their lives for their fellow man, if humanity, may be benefited thereby. We should also remember, that we should sacrifice our personal comfort and desires, to help a needy Brother, we should give to him from our own earnings, help him physically and mentally. **Point** out the way and path to every man and Brother that leads to higher planes of Spiritual unfoldment, so that they might be enabled to come to a proper understanding of their own Faculties, Capacities and Powers. We must never forget, that these things are a **Duty,** that we owe to every man and Brother Mason. We should also ever remember, and never forget, that wise Aphorism of EPICTETUS, **THE ROMAN SLAVE: Be not diverted from your Duty, by any idle reflections, the silly world may make upon you, for their concerns are not in your power, and consequently, should not be any part of your concern.**

Do good to all men, irrespective of Creed, Caste or Color, is the Duty of every Brother Master Mason. And as Brother Rebold says, in his History of Masonry: The real object of Free-Masonry, may be summed up in these words—To efface from among men, the prejudices of caste, the conventional distinctions of color, origin, opinion, nationality; to annihilate fanaticism and superstition; to extirpate national discord. And with it extinguish **the firebrand of War.** In a word, to arrive by free and pacific progress, at one formual, or model, of Eternal and Universal Right. According to which individual human beings shall be **free,** to develop every Faculty, with which he may be endowed. And so concur heartily and in the fulness of his strength, in the bestowment of happiness, upon all. And thus to make of the whole human race, one family of Brothers, united by affection, Wisdom and Labor.

Let me assure you my dear readers and friends, Free-Masonry antagonizes no creed, but tolerates all. And professes the teachings of the Ancient Wisdom that have descended to us from that venerable Brotherhood of India, to which I have so often referred, in this work. **Free-Masonry,** seeks Truth alone, and it strives to lead by **Degrees,** all intellects, to **Reason.** It allows every Brother, to profess and practice, any Religion, or Philosophy, that his conscience may dictate **(providing that Religion does not interfere with the inalienable Rights of Man),** or none, if it be preferable to him. **Masonry** demands, that every Brother believe in the Supreme Architect of the Universe. Our beloved Fraternity is a philanthropic, and

scientific, association, of Good Men, and True, Each and every one believes in, and teaches, the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man. It also asserts most emphatically, that, not only every Brother Mason, but every **Man should have the Right of Freedom of Thought, Freedom of Speech and Freedom of Conscience.**

The dogma of Masonry, is that of Zarathustra and Hermas. **Its Law** is progressive initiation. Its principles regulated Hierarchy and Universal Fraternity. It is the Heir of all the Ancient Initiations. It is the depository of the secrets of the Apocalypse and the Sohar. It is the preserver and conserver of the Ancient Wisdom, of that Venerable Brotherhood of India, whose unbroken records, go back ten thousand years, before **Christ the Master** preached the Beatitudes, throughout Jerusalem or the Jews were a Tribe, or a People. The object of its worship is **MORALITY** and **TRUTH,** which is represented in our Lodge, Chapters, Councils and Consistories by the Light that it dispenses.

Through every age of the world's history, Masonry has ever been the Champion of the Rights of all Men. It endeavors to Teach, and requires the brethren to practice and disseminate a Knowledge of **Truth** and **Morality** among all men throughout the world Universal. It is ever striving to free them from their animal passional nature. It also works incessantly to free all men from Ignorance, Bigotry, Intolerance, and Mental, and Spiritual Slavery. It stands today at the head of human affairs, and it will most assuredly guide and direct us safely through the approaching crisis

to **the inalienable Rights of the People—Liberty of Thought, Freedom of Conscience and a Free Government for the People and by the People.**

There has never been a time, when our most illustrious Fraternity conspired against the Government to which it owed due, and lawful obedience. It is always ready, and willing, to draw its sword, in defence of the down-trodden, and oppressed, of every country, so that they may enjoy those inalienable Rights, spoken of above.

CHAPTER VIII.

Roman Catholicism

Now, my dear Brothers and Readers, I ask you: What **right** has any man or body of men, to persecute, and condemn another, because, he cannot, or does not, believe as they command him to? I do most assuredly claim that no man should be censured, or praised, because he believes that Christ **has come.** Neither should we blame or condemn, or find fault, with another, if he believes, that **He is yet to come** Neither should we blame, or find fault with another, if he believes that **He never will come,** because he believes that Christ, or the Christ principle, dwells in the heart of every man. And that every individual must work out his own Redemption, and be his own saviour, by **"LIVING THE LIFE."**

My dear Brothers, if you do not put your **Faith** in the Dogma, and Creed, of the Roman Catholic Church, you should not be persecuted, or censured. If the so-called "Light of the **New Dispensation** is not visible to you, it is not your fault nor their misfortune. TRUTH to one may not be TRUTH to another, and what may appear perfectly consistent to me, may seem to be the height of absurdity to you, and others. But my dear Brother, realize the fact, your thinking so does not make it so. Consequently you **must** certainly realize at some time, that it is one of the greatest of crimes,

for any Man, or body of Men, to condemn, and punish others, because they do not, nor cannot, **believe** as they do.

The Hindu, Brahmin, Jew or Moslem, has just as much right, to condemn, persecute, and punish both Roman Catholic, and Protestant, as we have to revile, and persecute them. There is no particular merit, in a man being either Gentile, Jew, Mohammedan, or Parcee.

No matter what a man's faith may be, it is most assuredly dependent in a great measure, upon his birthplace, and to the Mother, who bore him. He as a child drinks in with his Mother's milk, the faith, and belief which belongs to her. We shall find that the teachings he learned at his Mother's knee, are in many instances, the most lasting, because, he is so constituted, as to need some system of worship, concrete, and tangible, upon which to focus his hopes and aspirations. Consequently he follows the form of worship, whose basic principles, and rules, he learned at his mother's knee.

From the above, you my dear reader, must certainly realize that it is self-evident, **the country wherein we are born,** and the religious beliefs of the Mother, are, evidently, mighty factors in the production of a belief in one thing, and disbelief, in another. All that Masonry demands of her applicants, are that—They have attained to a lawful age, that they are Free-Born, and that they have been heard of under the tongue of Good Reports. But, above and beyond all else, Masonry demands a belief in the One Great God—THE SUPREME ARCHITECT OF THE UNIVERSE.

We have a bitter, vindictive and relentless foe in Jesuitry, whose motto is—THE END JUSTIFIES THE MEANS.

You, my dear Brother, might ask—Who, and what are the Jesuits? I answer you—They are the bitter, and unrelenting enemies, of all men who are not Roman Catholics, they are especially antagonistic to all Free-Masons. They are really, and truly, the militant wing of the Romish Church, and they are continually, and persistently, working to restore the Pope, to temporal power.

The head of the Roman Catholic Church is called the **White Pope,** whose home is in Rome at the Vatican.

The head or General of the Jesuits, is called the **Black Pope.** He is supposed to live in Rome, where he makes his headquarters. He, is appointed for Life, and he has unlimited powers placed in his hands. He maintains and appoints, all officers under him.

Let us examine the form of Oath taken by the Jesuit and which was published by "The Standard" of London, England, March 20th, 1901. It is as follows: "I. A. B., Now in the presence of Almighty God, The Blessed Virigin Mary, The Blessed Michael, The Blessed St. John The Baptist, The Holy Apostle St. Peter and St. Paul. And all the Saints of the Sacred Hosts of Heaven, and to you my Ghostly Father. Do declare from my heart, without mental reservation, that His Holiness Pope Leo, is Christ's Vicar General. And is the only true head of the Catholic, or Universal Church throughout the Earth. And by virtue of the Keys of binding, and loving, given to His Holiness

by my Saviour Jesus Christ, he hath power to depose heretical Kings, Princes, States, Commonwealth's and Governments, all being illegal without His Sacred Confirmation. And that they may be safely destroyed. Therefore, to the utmost of my power, I shall, and will defend this doctrine, and His Holiness rights, and customs, against all usurpers, especially against the new pretended authority, and the Church of England, and all adherentism regard that they, and she, be usurped, and heretical, opposing the Sacred Mother Church of Rome. I do renounce, and disown, any allegience as due to any heretical King, Prince, or State, named Protestants, or Obedience to the inferior Magistrates or Officers.

I do farther declare the doctrine of the Church of England, of the Calvinistic, Hugenots, and others of the name Protestants, to be damnable, and they themselves are damned, and to be damned, that will not forsake the same. I do further declare, that I will help, assist and advise, all, or any of His Holiness agents, in any place in which I shall be, in England, Scotland, and Ireland, or in any other territory or Kingdom I shall come to, and do my utmost to extirpate the heretical Protestant doctrines. And destroy all their pretended powers, legal, or otherwise.

I do further promise, and declare, that notwithstanding, I am dispensed to assume any religion, heretical, for propagating of the Mother Church's interest to keep sacred, and private all her agents counsels from time to time as they interest me. And not to divulge directly, or indirectly, by word writing, or circumstances whatsoever. But to execute all what shall be

proposed, given in charge, or discovered unto me, by you my Ghostly Father. All of which I. A. B., do swear by the Blessed Trinity, and Blessed Sacrament, which I now am to receive, and on my part to keep inviolably, and do call the Heavenly, and glorious Host of Heaven, to witness, these my real intentions. And to keep this my **Oath,** In testimony hereof, I take this holy, and blessed Sacrament of the Eucharist, and witness the same further with my hand, and seal, this—of —Ano Dom, etc.

This is the Oath of the sword for all Protestants and all protestant nations. They are now occupying a stronger position in these United States of America, than ever before. They have been expelled from many countries, because they were a menace to the Government and all Religions other than Roman Catholicism, and God speed the day when they will be driven from the Free soil of America.

Let me assure you my dear Brothers, that the Black Soldiers of Loyola, (the Jesuits) would, if it were possible, throw the world back again into the same conditions as when the fires flamed throughout the so-called civilized world in Auto-de-fee's, of the Romish church. The Jesuits have always been the advocates and upholders of the "NICOLAITAN" theory. **The rule of the priesthood over the people,** consequently they are the bitter and relentless FOE of all that tends to enlighten and educate the masses, such as our **Free Secular Schools, a Free Press,** Freedom of Thought and Opinion, by which I mean Religious Freedom; and as I have previously said—A Free Government for the People and by the People.

Let me also assure my dear Brothers, that it behoves every **true** Man and Mason, to stand upon their guard against the interference of Jesuits in particular and Roman Catholics in general, against our **Free Secular Schools,** which are conducted for the purpose of instructing in pure, unadulterated secular learning, so that they may be enabled to obtain therein a thorough and complete knowledge of reading, writing and speaking the English Language correctly, also arithmetic, with the higher branches of Mathematics, as well as a thorough comprehension of History, Geography, etc. All of which, is actually necessary, not only for the future benefit of our American citizens in particular, but for our beloved country in general. EVERY FREE-BORN AMERICAN CITIZEN should be a Man of education, Intelligent and Refined. Men, who are free from all Bigotry and intolerance of Creed, Dogma, Doctrine and Discipline such as pertain to the members of the Roman Catholic church and her Jesuitical Bigots.

There has been much comment about **Godless Schools,** promulgated most assuredly by our bitter Foes, the **Romish priests and the Jesuits.** My dear Friends and Brothers, it is **the Duty** of our Country to teach to the **KNOWN** and not the unknown. Every Intellectual man will most assuredly come to an understanding of the Supreme Architect of the Universe, if he be permitted, to light the lamp of his own reasoning capacities and faculties and follow the dictates of his own conscience, by Thinking for himself. No true American man, or Mason, will ever, under any circumstances, allow either Jesuit or Romish

priest to attempt to compel him to believe as he or they may desire. May the Good God preserve our FREE SCHOOLS and FREE AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS from the Ruthless hands of what Pope Pius VII called his Sacred Militia, **The Jesuits.**

The Romish priests and Jesuits are ever and always working and plotting to enter the thin end of the wedge into our **Free-Secular Schools** and destroy them. **Our Laws, Constitution and Declaration of Independence would be town down and trampled beneath the feet of the bigoted and intolerant Jesuits, and a repetition of the horrors of the damnable Inquisition occur as it did in the Dark Ages, if they were in power. The Eve of Saint Bartholomew** would be repeated, not only here in our own country, but in all others that were not thoroughly under the dominion of the Romish church.

Papal Rome is the bitter foe of all English speaking people who are not under her control. If she can by any means disrupt the Anglo-Saxon race, her aim will be accomplished. Today her main object is to stir up strife and discord between England and America and thus **destoy both** if possible, or dominate them. Then, upon the ruins of two of the grandest nations of the earth, she would raise her standards and rule the world with a rod of iron. Her long war against humanity and human progress, Science and Civilization, if successful, would be smothered in the flame of Auto de Fee's and Free-Masonry would be stamped out of existence by those Ruthless and Intolerant Bigots —the Jesuits and the hierarchy of the Roman Catholic church.

Let me quote you from an article in relation to this subject by H. T. B., of Kansas City, Missouri, which was published in the "Trestle Board of June, 1896." "The English speaking race, rising from the sea of nations, first lighted the fires of Religious Liberty in the British Isles. The history of this race, for eighteen hundred years has been a continuous struggle for religious and political freedom against the papal hierarchy, and nearly all its bloody and unceasing warfare has been in self-defense or in defense of others of like faith, or for the purpose of extending the faith by enlargement of area.

Excommunicated and oppressed at times by nearly all the world, at the instigation of Rome, it has disrupted its enemies and caused them to cripple each other and has emerged stronger and wealthier than ever, until in our own day, one-third of the world and its inhabitants is under its influence or direct rule, and the end is not yet. With all branches of this race united no other power in the world can hold control and Rome, which aims at universal dominion, is well aware of this fact. . . . By flattery and fanning the flames of jealousy she strives to promote ill-feeling between us and our natural allies, and she would make us believe that the world is too small for both, and that their policy, no matter what it is, must be necessarily opposed to our interests.

She urges that an alliance with the degraded and financially impoverished nations of South America despotism, (masquerading as Republics) with their priest-ridden and ricketty governments, with no trade and no enterprise, and no love for us or our Free in-

stitutions, is preferable to the Friendship of our own Kith and Kin, whose flag is the emblem of what we hold most dear, who offer Free Ports, Free Schools, Free Religious Opinion, Free Welcome and Protection to all. Who if she extends her territory makes no restrictions in favor of her own subjects. And under whose flag the Missionary may proclaim his message and be assured of PROTECTION. Who if she erred in the past has profited by experience, and she now seeks to rule by wisdom and not by force. And she has beyond all contradiction, improved the condition of all her colonies, and each and every one of those colonies are proving their Loyalty and Love, by sending men and munitions of war to defend the honor of the Flag that gives to each and all, Freedom in the fullest sense of that word. What have we in common with any people in the world, outside our own Royal Race? On what was the pretended friendship of Russia based some years ago? Nothing but self-interest and rivalry of England and the desire to make a fool of us.

Did France during the Revolution assist us through Love, or because she hated England?

What does the mongrel races of Central and South America care for us, except as a cat's paw to pull their chestnuts out of the fire, or as a defense behind which they can run riot and be impudent at will.

If Rome loves our institutions as she professes to do, why does she not essay to introduce them where her **WILL** is sole authority? So far from this both here and in Canada, she would destroy our Free public schools if she could and so far from upholding our

Free institutions, with her followers in power, she has corrupted our nobly conceived Government, until it has degenerated into a mixture of spasmodic anarchy aggravated **by a riot of Trusts,** dominated by the **Wire-pulling** of a short-sighted Plutocracy.

Luckily our people are awakening to the danger. The foreigner by sentiment, if not always by birth, is wresting the sceptre from our grasp, and we are in imminent danger of losing our birthright.

England, like ourselves, by reason of her views, has not a friend in the world and undoubtedly her desire at the present time is to win our Love and Alliance, and to affect this she is willing to sacrifice anything but honor and self-respect. There is room for both in the world. What she cannot control herself she would only be too glad to see controlled by a friendly Protestant, English-speaking people like ourselves, and especially to save it from the clutches of her hereditary foes—**The Church of Rome and her Sacred Militia—the Jesuits.**

Let me quote you my dear Brothers and readers, parts of two speeches that were made by two Methodist ministers at the Methodist Convention, held in St. Paul's Methodist Episcopal church in New York City, on November 19, 1900. Bishop Goodsell of Tennessee, while speaking of the work that was being done by their missionaries in Southern Europe, said: "There are many who doubt whether we have done any work in Italy, the land of superstition and priestcraft; whether we can ever hope to accomplish anything there, in the face of the tremendous press of adverse thought, with which we are confronted. The

fact is, we sent one of our workers into Italy. He soon made up his mind that in Rome we had to do as the Romans do. He began by training the young, by taking them into our schools and seminaries. The work is slow, but its value has been recently testified to by the Pontiff himself, who has honored us by excommunicating everyone, teachers and pupils alike, connected with our institutions of learning. In his effort to preserve for himself the triple crown of papacy, he has issued a sweeping interdiction against the schools and every one passing through their gates. This, however, has only made us more determined to wipe out a system which has created out of a former man of Empire, **a cringing beggar with a monkey and a grind organ."**

At the same place and during the same Convention, The Rev. Dr. C. W. Drees, said: "Christendom is divided into two camps, with Protestantism on one hand and Greek and Roman Catholicism on the other. The time is upon us, when, anew, the question which appeared in the Protestant reformation will begin to agitate the world and demand to be pushed to their final issue. After slumbering through four centuries the self-same questions were awakened by **the last act of infamy of the pontiff in declaring himself Infallible.** Within twenty-four hours after that blasphemous declaration had been written on the triple crown of Rome, the Prussian armies, invaded Catholic France. Forty-five days later the battle of Sedan was fought, with Protestant Prussia the victor, and twenty days only had elapsed, when the united armies entered the **"holy city"** where the people held sway, bringing with

them car-loads of Bibles. The Pope lost his temporal power, and since that day, the creed has been weakening.

The Roman Church at one time held sway everywhere, but, now that church, and Spanish domination, have fallen off their high pedestals. When Spain is arraigned the Catholic Church should be arraigned, with that power as co-respondent. Ever since Issabella signed away the Liberty of Spain to the Pope, there has been an illegitimate alliance between Statecraft and Priestcraft, against human Liberty and human progress.

In our late revered, Brother General Albert Pike's answer, to the letter of Pope Leo XIII, known as the letter **"Humanum Genus."** He says: "Thanks unto the God of Hosts, from whom all glories are! Free-Masonry is mightier than the Church of Rome; for it possesses the invincible might of the Spirit of the Age, and of the convictions, of Humanity. And it will continue to grow in strength, and greatness, while that church, in love with, and doting upon its old traditions, and incapable of learning anything, will continue to decay. The palsied hand of the Papacy, is too feeble, to arrest the march of human progress. It cannot bring back the obsolete doctrine, that Kings reign by divine right. In vain it will preach new crusades against Free-Masonry, or Heresy, or Republicanism. It will continue to sigh in vain, for the return of the days of Phillip II, and Mary of England, of Loyola, and Alva, and Torqumada. If it succeeds in instigating the Kings of Spain, and Portugal, to engage in the work of extirpating Free-Masonry,

these will owe to it the speedy loss of their crowns. This world is no longer in a humor, to be saddled, and bitted, like an ass, and ridden by Capuchins, and Franciscans. Humanity has inhabited the fresh, keen winds of **Freedom,** and escaped from companionship with the herds, that chew the cud, and the inmates of stables, and Kennels, to the highlands of **LIBERTY, EQUALITY** and **BROTHERHOOD.**

The world is not likely to forget, the infallible Pope Urban VII. **Baherina** set his signature to the sentence, which condemned to perpetual imprisonment, to abjuration, and to silence Galileo Galilei, who it is known avoided being burned at the stake, by denying on bended Knees, the deductions of positive science, which demonstrated the movements of the Earth, etc.

Nor are Free-Masons likely to forget, that when the Bull of Clement XII, which Leo XIII revived, and re-enacted, was published; Cardinal Firras explained the nature, of the punishments which was requested to be inflicted on Free-Masons. And what the kind of service was which the Pope demanded of the Secular Arm.

It is forbidden he said . . . . to affiliate one's self with the Societies of Masons . . . . UNDER PENALTY OF DEATH, AND CONFISCATION OF GOODS, AND TO DIE UNABSOLVED, AND WITHOUT HOPE OF SALVATION.

Who will be audacious enough to censure us, for replying defiantly to the decree, which, by the revisor of the Bull of Clement, condemns every Free-

Mason in the world to death, and confiscation. And damns him in advance, to die without hope of Salvation? The world has not forgotten, that when Charles IX of France, and the Duc de Guise, at first disowned responsibility for the massacre of twenty thousand Protestants, and others on the eve, and after the Eve of Saint Bartholemew, the Catholic clergy assumed it. Heaven adopted it, they said! It was not the massacre of the Kings and the Duc. IT WAS THE JUSTICE OF GOD. Then the slaughter recommenced, of neighbor by neighbor, of women, of children, and of children unborn, in order to extinguish families the wombs of the mothers were cut open, and the children torn out of them, for fear they might survive.

Men remembered that at Saint Michael, the Jesuit Auger, sent thither from the College of Paris, announced to Bordeaux, that the Archangle Michael had made the great massacre, and deplored the sluggishness of the Governor and Magistrates of Bordeaux. After the 24th of August there were feasts. The Catholic clergy had theirs at Paris, on the 28th, and ordered a Jubilee, to which the King and Court went, and returned thanks to God. And the King who proclaimed that—**He** had caused Coligni to be Killed, and said that he would have poinarded him with his own hand, was flattered to intoxication, by the praises and congratulations of Rome. Do men not remember that there were feasts, and great gaities at Rome, on account of the massacre? That the Pope chanted the **Te Deum Laudamus,** and sent it to his son, Charles IX (to win for whom the whole credit

of the massacre, the Cardinal of Lorraine moved Heaven and Earth). The Rose of Gold? was coined by Rome, to commemorate it. And a painting of the bloody scene was made, and until lately hung in the Vatican.

Free-Masonry is strong enough every where now, to defend itself, and does not dread even the Hierarchy of the Roman Church, with its great revenues, and its Cardinal Princes, claiming to issue the decrees and Bulletins of God, and to hold the Keys with which it locks and unlocks, at pleasure, the Gates of Paradise. The powers of Free-Masonry too are sending their words to one another over the four Continents, and the great Islands of the Southern Seas. Colonized by Englishmen, who speak but with only the authority of Reason URBI ET ORBI to men of free souls, and high courage, and quick intelligence. It does not need that Free-Masonry should take up arms of any sort, against the Church of Rome. Science, the wider knowledge of what God is, learned from his works; the irresistible progress of civilization, the Spirit of the twentieth century. These are the sufficient avengers of the mutations, and murders of the long ages of a horrid past. These have already avenged Humanity and Free-Masonry, need not add another word, except these, that there are two questions to be asked, and answered, thereunto demanded of all Roman Catholics, in the United States, who are loyal to the Constitution of Government, under which they live, **Patriotic Citizens of the United States: Does not your conscience tell you, that—what is now demanded of you by Pope**

Leo XIII, by the General of the Jesuits and the Chief Inquisitor is—TO ENGAGE ACTIVELY IN A CONSPIRICY AGAINST THAT CONSTITUTION OF GOVERNMENT, AND THE PRINCIPLES ON WHICH IT IS FOUNDED. ARTER THE DETHRONEMENT OF WHICH PRINCIPLES, THAT CONSTITUTION OF GOVERNMENT, COULD NOT LIVE AN HOUR?

If you cannot see it in that light, **do not your common sense, and conscience tell you, that**—TO APPROVE, AND FAVOR, AND GIVE AID, AND ASSISTANCE TO AN OPEN CONSPIRACY AGAINST EVERY OTHER REPUBLIC, AND CONSTITUTIONAL MONARCHY IN THE WORLD. AND THE PRINCIPLES ON WHICH THEY ARE FOUNDED, IS TO PLAY A PART THAT IS INCONSISTENT WITH THE PRINCIPLES YOU PROFESS TO BE GOVERNED BY HERE, IS IN OPPOSITION, TO ALL THE SYMPATHIES OF THE COUNTRY IN WHICH YOU LIVE. AND, IS HOSTILE TO THE INFLUENCE OF ITS EXAMPLE AMONG THE PEOPLE OF OTHER COUNTRIES, TREACHEROUS TO YOUR OWN COUNTRY, AND UNWORTHY OF AMERICAN CITIZENS. **You will have to answer these questions! for they will not cease to be reiterated, until you do.** AND NOT BY FREE-MASONRY ALONE.

My dear Brothers and readers, I have not only given you my own opinions and ideas, in relation to the above. But I have also quoted from other sources

in order to bear out my own assertions in relation to the subject of **FREE-BORN,** and the Roman Catholic "Church." I will finish with one more quotation, from "A Lexicon of Free-Masonry" by A. G. Mackey, M. D., which is as follows:

The constitutions of our Order requires that every candidate shall be **Free-Born,** And this is necessary, for, admission into the fraternity involves a solemn contract, no one can bind himself to its performance who is not the Master of his own actions. Nor can the man of servile condition, or slavish mind, be expected to perform his Masonic duties, with that freedom, fervency and zeal which the laws of our institution require. After reading the above and what I have said, you should thoroughly understand, why a child, born of bigoted Roman Catholic parents, could never become, a good, and true member of our Fraternity, especially if he has been trained in one of their parochial schools.

The Roman Catholic Church is held together by principles and purposes, the exact reverse of what our Constitution and Declaration of Independence stands for. All the tremendous powers of this great organization is given into the hands of the Pope and his college of Cardinals. They **wield absolute** power. They command **absolute** obedience. They claim that the greatest sin that can be committed, is Disobedience, because Disobedience creates disorder and engenders schism. The masses obey and their obedience is compelled by superstition, ignorance and fear.

They have arrayed against us, what every Free-Born American citizen would die for, and that is —the Love of Liberty and the cause of Truth.

America glories in her Liberty. She has demonstrated and emphasized that fact, by placing conspicuous in New York harbor, a stupendous statue of the Goddess of Liberty enlightening the world. This statue stands there, to represent **Freedom of Thought, Freedom of Speech, A Free Press and a Free Government for the People and by the People.**

The time has passed when Pope could humble Kings and compel obedience to his mandates. Free-Masonry and Education have taken Ignorance by the throat and is now shaking the Life out of it. People are now begining to **Think** for themselves. And when they do come to a knowledge of the fact—that they must work out their own redemption, **All mankind will be Free-Born.**

Today the Vatican is terribly afraid of a new movement within the body of the Romish Church by Modernists or Neo Catholics. They are working earnestly and intelligently to rejuvinate the Catholic Church and do away with the **absolute** power of the Pope. These Modernist claim that this **One Man** power is unscriptural, unhistorical, un-Catholic and entirely wrong. Their most earnest desire, is to rejuvenate Catholicism and reform the Church. To make it a **truer, purer, church,** wherein, each and every member be allowed more Freedom of Thought. They desire to show to the Hierarchy that a Free-Press, in a Free country, is far more powerful than ecclesiastical authority.

Let us follow the example set us by Canada and Bar Catholic teachers from our Free Schools. The Board of Education, realizing the danger to their children, prohibited Roman Catholics from teaching in their Public Schools and passed a resolution to that effect in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, on the 2nd day of April, 1909.

CHAPTER IX.

Prerequisites of Candidates

THIRD—The candidate must be of Lawful Age. By the American Constitution. The candidate for Initiation and membership into a regular constituted Lodge of Master Masons, must have attained the lawful age of **twenty-one years.** But in other countries the son of a Mason is allowed to make application for membership at the age of eighteen years.

No doubt you all know, that Operative Mason's tools, are used by Free-Masons, to symbolize something other than what they are used for. And I desire to call your attention to the fact, that—There is one tool and a very important one which is used by the Operative Mason that is not found upon the trestle board of the American Ritual and that is a Lewis. It is a very peculiar kind of instrument made of iron, it is used for the purpose of lifting heavy blocks of stone. The stone mason cuts a slanting cavity in the top of the stone, he then drops in the jaws of the Lewis, attaches the tackle to it, the stone is then hoisted to its intended place and put in position.

In the English Ritual it finds a conspicuous place upon the tracing board of the entered apprentice. Under the English jurisdiction the Lewis, symbolizes **Strength,** because it is used for the purpose of lift-

ing the heaviest of stones. It also symbolizes the Son of a Master Mason. Because the Son is strongest at that age. And it is the duty of the Son to help and support the failing strength of his father, when old age approaches.

The English Constitution permits a Lewis or Son of a Master Mason to be Initiated at the age of eighteen years. But it distinctly specifies that all other candidates must have reached the age of twenty-one before they can present their petition or application for Initiation.

In France the Son of a Master Mason is called a Louveteau (young wolf), and he like the Lewis in England is also permitted to present his application for Initiation and membership into the Fraternity at eighteen years of age.

FOURTH—The applicant must come of his own **FREE WILL AND ACCORD.** The scriptures say: "Ask and ye shall receive. Seek and ye shall find. Knock and it shall be opened unto you." Masonically speaking, to what does these questions allude? I simply leave them to be answered by your own individual intelligence. I will say, however, that no man was ever asked to become a member of our beloved Fraternity, he must ask for admission of his own **Free Will and Accord.** No man is ever solicited to enter into a Masonic Lodge for membership therein. Should any person express a desire to become a Free-Mason to a member of any Masonic Lodge, with whom he is acquainted, it is the duty of that Brother to tell him how to proceed. Upon no consideration will a member of a Masonic Lodge solicit any one to

enter the sacred portals of Free-Masonry. If a man was known to have been solicited, that man would not be allowed to proceed, he never could pass between the columns that Establish in Strength the Harmony and Unity of Free-Masonry. Every Man must come of his own Free Will and Accord, otherwise he could not be received. **For out of his own mouth he would condemn himself,** and he would be rejected. To him who comes in this way and gives **The Right Knock,** he will be permitted to enter and be received as all others who have gone before. We know then that his Faith is well founded, consequently he is allowed to enter and search for himself.

In searching among the sublimely beautiful Allegories and Symbols of Masonry, our candidate or Masonic Student, will find a most profound depth of Moral philosophy, embodied in each and every Degree. **He will begin to realize that Ritualism is not Masonry.** He will begin to realize that there is something more, in the philosophy of Masonry than **Grips, Words and Tokens.** He will—if he has been Duly and Truly prepared, positively knows, that the ritualistic ceremonies of Initiation, covers up and hides a most profound and beautiful progressive Scientific Philosophy. And he will positively know that it did not require the building of a Temple by Solomon, King of Israel, to demonstrate the profound system of Morality that belongs to our beloved and glorious Fraternity. He will begin to realize that the wondrous Knowledge and Wisdom contained in the veiled symbols of Masonry are not only of the most profound interest, but, sublimely grand and beautiful.

Our Neophyte will no doubt have some difficulty endeavoring to find the **true** meaning of many of our Masonic Symbols. He can never hope to understand the faintest glimmer of their **true** meaning, until he has Meditated and concentrated his Mind upon them. For Concentration of the Mind is the **Key** to **Esoteric** study. Therefore, in order to understand our system of **Morality, Allegories, Legends and Symbols,** both the Candidate and Masonic Student must **Think and Reason for themselves.**

CHAPTER X.

Black Sheep

FIFTH—The candidate or applicant must **"come well recommended."** That is, every Man who desires to become a Free-Mason, must be recommended to the Officers and members of the Lodge by some well-known Brothers before any action can be taken." But, my dear readers, understand that this recommendation will not admit him to membership in the Lodge or into the body of our Fraternity. It requires something other than mere recommendation from some Brothers who may possibly have never seen the Applicant for the Degree and that **some** thing is:

SIXTH—That he shall have been heard of under the **Tongue of Good Report.** It is right here, my dear Brothers, that every Masonic Lodge should safeguard its portals most carefully. **It is far better to be safe than sorry.** Ever remembering that—It is quality, not quantity, that should be admitted into our Masonic Fraternity. None but those who are intellectualy qualified should be permitted to enter our portals. None should be admitted or introduced into our Fraternity whom we could not introduce into the bosom of our family. In fact, no rough stone, that cannot be formed into a Perfect Ashlar, should be used in the foundation of Craft Masonry. And it should be the Duty of every Brother to be vigilant

and watchful and see to it that none, but good men and true, are permitted to pass between the Columns.

When a man sends in his petition for membership, in a Masonic Lodge, that petition must be signed by the Master Masons of that Lodge. Thus he comes, well recommended. But, this recommend, will not admit him to membeıship in a Masonic Lodge. It will only recommend him as one whom the signers consider to be "Worthy and Well Qualified." But it is very often the case, that all those who signed the applicant's petition, never saw the man, whose petition they signed and who they are recommending. Let me explain more fully. A Brother Master Mason having found a friend or acquaintance, who is exceedingly anxious to become a Mason. He furnished him with a petition and fills it out for him, possibly signs it himself and tells his friend, **I will attend to it** and let you know all about it when the time comes. The first meeting night of his Lodge he goes into the ante-room or the Lodge room, as the case may be. Very soon some Brother comes along with whom he is well acquainted to whom he says: "Say, Joe, I've got a candidate who wants to join our Lodge. He is a good boy, I've got his fee, put your name down here." Joe signs the petition, some other Brother is roped in the same way, taking the voucher of the one and the signature of the other Brother as an evidence of Faith, of Truth and Right.

The petition is presented in the usual way and is acted upon. The Master appoints an examining committee of three Master Masons to examine the candidate and see for themselves whether or not the candi-

date or applicant is **Worthy and Well Qualified** to be Initiated and receive the Degrees.

Now, if the examining committee does their Duty, they will investigate thoroughly and endeavor to find out all about him. Assuring themselves that he is **FREE-BORN,** and that he is Worthy and Well Qualified to enter, be Received and Initiated into our Fraternity. The utmost care should be exercised by the examining Committee in searching out the **True Character** of the solicitant. They should not upon any consideration depend upon the reputation of the petitioner for this reason—It is not always safe to depend upon the reputation of any one. They should remember that the status of their Lodge depends entirely upon the examining committee. It is not the Master of the Lodge or his Officers, nor the members of the Lodge who should be held responsible for the admission of **"Black Sheep."** But it lies entirely in the hands of the examining committee.

The Examining Committee should be charged by the Master of the Lodge, not to look at the financial condition of the Lodge. Neither should the Master himself try to beat the record of he who occupied the Oriental chair before him. And the committee should be requested to question the petitioners thoroughly and carefully, as to their Motives and Purposes in seeking admission into the Fraternity. Let them take time to do their work thoroughly and make their report truthfully. They should do their whole duty not only to the applicant, but to their Lodge. Then when it comes to the Lodge to do their duty they will most assuredly do it, in accord with the finding of the ex-

amining committee. Because every Brother knows that IF THEY have done **their Duty** the Lodge can make no mistake **in voting in accord with their investigations.** Thus you will understand, my dear Brothers, that the Status of the Lodge lies entirely in the hands of the examining committee and not with the Master, Officers and members alone.

My dear Brothers, I have given you my opinion in relation to the Duties and Responsibilities of the Examining Committee, appointed by the Most Worshipful Master. And before closing this subject I desire to say that—no member of a Masonic Lodge, should be too eager to sign a petition or vouch for a man of whom he knows comparatively nothing. Not until the Brother knows something definite, about the applicant, other than a casual acquaintance. Not until he knows something reliable in relation to his character, should he offer to sign a petition and present it to the Lodge. The kind of applicants every Lodge require are those who are worthy and well qualified, to **Receive** what we have to **Give.** Such an one are what we need in all our Lodges, Chapters, Councils and Consistories. Therefore, my dear Brothers, look to the interest of your Lodge, as well as to character of the applicant, before doing anything. If you are not positively certain in your own **Mind,** that he will not be a true Worker and Loyal to the Cause of **Equity, Justice and Right,** ask him to get some other one to take his name in. It is as I have previously said, better to be Safe, than Sorry. And then guard the portals of your Lodge in the usual manner.

CHAPTER XI.

Antiquity of Masonry

Before going any farther we will go back to Egypt to prove the antiquity of Masonry from the two obelisks called Cleopatras Needles. These wonderful obelisks were originally erected at Heliopolis in B. C. 1500, by Thothmes III, one of the greatest of Egyptian Pharoahs, in order to commemorate victories over his enemies, in the "Golden Age of Egypt." They were brought from that great city of the Sun Heliopolis for the express purpose of decorating the temple of Caesar **(The Caesercum)** in Alexandria, during the reign of Tiberius. One of these stupendous monoliths was given to the English government by Mohammed Ali, and after considerable delay it was finally shipped to England in the year 1877, where it eventually arrived, having passed through great danger of loss by shipwreck. And it stands today upon the Thames embankment, a relic of one of Egypt's grandest Monarchs. The dimensions of this stone are sixty-eight feet long and seven feet eight inches across the base. The other one was given to this country **(America)** by the Khedive. And it was brought to New York by Commander Goringe in the year 1880. The obelisk is seventy-one feet long and seven feet seven inches at the base, measured across the face of the stone. I have often sat upon the com-

panion stone as it laid lengthwise beside this monolith, deciphering the hieroglyphics and pondering upon the glory that belonged to a people who had a greater knowledge of the Mechanical Arts and Sciences than we posses today. Men who builded such stupeduous and magnificent monuments in the hoary civilizations of the dim and misty ages of the past. When our forefathers were digging clams, with stone hatchets in the lagoons of Europe and the Altars of the Druids were running red with the blood of human sacrifice. What a sweep backward, must the imagination take, in order to appreciate the almost bewildering stretch of time, from the present day of this twentieth century to the day when Eliola founded a Branch of The Great School in the early ages of Egyptian civilization.

Both of these obelisks were quarried in Syene, at the first cataract of the River Nile. And it is composed of the same kind and quality of granite as that in Pompey's pillar. They were erected to honor one of Egypt's mighty warriors, nearly thirty-five centuries ago. And yet, now, they are the admiration of people, not in existence when this great and powerful King conquered the Marharania of Mesopotamia and blazoned upon their stony sides the deeds that he had done to thoroughly establish his Kingdom upon the banks of the River Nile, in the civilizations of a far away past.

When Commander Goringe lowered this magnificent monolith from its pedestal in Alexandria in order to ship it to America, the workmen found beneath the stone a number of Masonic emblems, such as an apron, a trowel, etc. The discovery of

these emblems, which had been placed beneath this mighty monolith by our ancient Brethren, must most assuredly demonstrate to the present generation that the peculiar Rites and ceremonies practiced by the speculative Masons (?) of the twentieth century in erecting and dedicating their monuments and temples, were not only performed by the practical operative Masons at the begining of our present era, but in every age of the world's history. This goes to prove the verity of our Rituals in the statement that —Masonry has existed from time immemorial and that the most intelligent men, in every age of the world's history have been members of our most Illustrious Fraternity.

I do not wish my readers to believe implicitly in what I say in order to prove the Origin and Antiquity of Masonry and from whence it came, etc. But, in relation to **"Cleopatras Needles,"** let me ask you to procure and read very carefully **"The Obelisk and Free-Masonry"** by John A. Weisse, M. D. I am sure it will give you **"More Light" in Masonry.**

CHAPTER XII.

Arab Masonry

Brother W. H. Kingsbury, like all other Masonic Students, was extremely interested in the account of the travels of Brother Rawson through Arabia, Palestine and Syria, where he had especially investigated Masonry as practiced by the Druses. For that reason I shall go into this subject fully and comprehensively from his investigations and my own. He says: "The Master represents the unknown, the unseen, the all-powerful. And sits in the place of honor, whence he delivers his orders to his assistants who are appointed at the time of the meeting. The candidate is prepared—partly clothed—and after a strict examination under the direction of the Master the candidate is led before him screened from the assembly by a shawl held up by two Brothers. He is then required to answer certain questions as in our own Lodges. He is then examined as to his intellectual development, very much like the candidate for the first degree in the Scottish Rite. Yet not a single word is said about religious faith, or creed, not even as to belief in Diety. By them it is presumed that all rational men are conscious of a Supreme existence, whether or not it is defined in words or Symbols. The very word Allah (God) is an exotic in Arabia. The Bedouin idealizes the race and imagines it personified

into what he calls the **Abram,** the Great Father, usually written among us **Abraham,** from whom are derived all living men and to whom they all return at death. The only world of being they know is the present and the only things worth notice are those relating to Man. Their Masonry, is therefore, a means of securing a better life here, without any reference to any other past or future.

The idea of collective man **(humanity)** is very ancient and its teachings are simple—That man was derived from the great source, that he returns to the same and that it is his duty to make life as important as possible. First for himself, which means with the Arab a discharge of **Duty to others for the sake of its return to himself.** The **Will** of the Sheikh **(Master)** is **the Law of the Lodge.** But the Will of the Master, **must be guided by the ancient Law which is unchangeable and inevitable.** The teachings of the Lodge enlightens the conscience and lifts the neophyte above himself, into a prevision of motives, the only sure guarantee of Morality.

The notion, which has grown into a belief, that an injury done to any member of the race, will reflect upon any doer of the deed, not as an accident but as a necessity of Law. They consider this to be a **Law of Nature**—Learning chiefly through observation, the Arab sees in the frequent exercise of the **Will** of the Sheikh, an apparent check or interference with the law of Nature. But, experience teaches him, through more careful observation that the Law invariably reasserts itself. The **Abram** is the ideal of excellence in human life. The esoteric teaching and work of the

Lodge would be entirely out of place here and intelligible to only a few initiates. Consequently, a general idea of the objects and purpose of the Lodge will be far more acceptable to the reader.

There is no such thing as Masonic literature among the Arabs of the desert. Outside the walled cities of the coast. But within the lodges of those cities, there is plenty of Masonic literature, but no true Masonry. Their rituals in the cities, is composed of a mass of garbled innovations, put there by the many Europeans who located in those cities and affiliated with them. And they, like the Prestons, Webbs and Cross', have woven into those rituals, such utter absurdities, that—to the intellectual Masonic Student, it is perfectly ridiculous. **The True Arab Mason, never upon any consideration, records anything except in his memory.** There can never be any paper Brother **among them**—No book Mason, and to advance the candidate must have obtained what he has learned, like all those who had preceded him—FROM MOUTH TO EAR.

Masonry in the desert, among the Bedouins, is the privilege of the very few. None but those who can come well recommended can even hope to be admitted into their midst as a brother. Masonic knowledge is an unqualified passport and introduction. A very interesting feature of the Craft, is this—when one proposes to go on a journey through a disturbed, or dangerous part of the country, some trusty brother or brothers are selected to whom the traveller is delivered. And the Masonic tie is renewed between them when the guardians became responsible for the

ward, even to the sacrifice of their life, in his defense. This custom, never fails of commanding respect, even between hostile tribes. Except, the traveller be guilty of shedding blood, not in self-defense. The protection of Women and Children, is an obligation that is never neglected. Any shortcoming in this matter, would heap dishonor on the head of the erring one.

Literature has changed the character of our Craft in so many points that careful study is required to ascertain the ancient meaning and practice. And even the closest application sometimes fails in tracing an ancient origin for some things in frequent use in the Lodge and elsewhere by the brethren. No such innovation **(removal of an ancient landmark)** is possible in the desert, where the traditions of all the tribal Lodges, correct the errors that may have crept in through some over-zealous person or worker. The language used in the Arab Lodge, is not that of modern literature, but it is that of the early ages, known as YOKTAN **in the centre of Ishmael to the West of Yemen in the South.** The earliest language that has been preserved is poetic. The Ritual of the modern Lodge is rhymed questioned and answered in the choicest terms, according to the grammar of the present idiom, which also is the oldest. **To the philologist those items are proof of the antiquity of our Fraternity.** More convincing, even than monuments in stone, which can be made in every age. While language must grow and is not made.

The ancient Egyptians recorded in hieroglyphs, writings and pictures, the whole of their Rites and ceremonies which portray to us of the present day,

the condition of the Fraternity and those matters which existed over four thousand years ago. And by careful investigation and examination of what has been recorded by those ancient people in their hieroglyphs, writings and pictures we shall find that they symbolize and teach the same grand lessons and the same profound and sublimely beautiful philosophy as are taught in our own beloved Scottish Rite philosophy. Although they are distributed through the several degrees from the **First to the Thirty-Third.**

The work in an Arab Lodge, shows a very close connection between the modern and the ancient Brotherhood of Egypt and Arabia. It also establishes the antiquity of the origin of the Bedouin Lodge. **There is not a word in use in the modern Lodge that has any reference to modern discoveries in science. Or to the political and religious changes of the last twenty centuries.** NEITHER CHRIST NOR MOHAMMED ARE MENTIONED. This fact opens a charming vista to the antiquarian and philologist. The cost of indulgence in this storehouse of antiquity is a local residence among the Bedouin Arabs and a thorough knowledge of their language and customs.

WITH THE ARAB THE INSTRUCTION OF THE LODGE IS A PREPARATION FOR A BETTER LIFE. WITH THE EGYPTIAN IT WAS A PREPARATION FOR DEATH. The Arabs still lives in the same social conditions in which history noticed him forty centuries ago. While the Egyptian ceased to exist as a Nation about twenty centuries ago. How much these different results were due to their peculiar ideas, is as yet an unsolved problem. Arab

Masonry furnishes a beautiful emblem of eternity, whose cycles are marked by supreme efforts for the redemption of mankind, from **the slavery of Ignorance and Superstition.** While the Craft in our day lends itself **for the perpetuation of errors peculiar to the ideas of a great many of our Christian ministers of our Protestant Churches.** And MORE ESPECIALLY TO THE PRIESTS, BISHOPS AND THE HIERARCHY OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH.

That mysterious Asiatic peninsula, called Arabia, ever seems to be a geographic, historic and political wonder. For while Empires, like Assyria, Persia, India, Greece and Rome, were changing and vanishing. Arabia and Ishmaels children remained immutable. The Assyrians, Persians, Egyptians, Greeks and Romans tried in vain to subjugate Hagar's progeny. They stand today, with their language, manners, customs and traditions, where they stood three thousand years ago. Renan and Maspero have lately given to the world some valuable hints on that mysterious people.

The similarity of the various rites of Ancient Masonry and the Mysteries, must, most assuredly demonstrate to the Masonic Student that they all had their origin in some one primitive source. No matter where we force our investigations, in either India, Persia, Egypt or any other eastern country. We shall find that the same harmonious and beautiful philosophical system of Ethics, etc., has been perpetuated by certain Rites and ceremonies and illustrated by symbols in all those Eastern countries, as well as our own.

This fact clearly proves that although the people who practiced them, taught the same sublime philosophy and believed the same grand Truths and used the self-same symbols, were in many instances widely separated one from the other. Yet, notwithstanding this fact, it must certainly prove to the Masonic Student, that Masonry originated from some one source. They will also fully realize the fact that Masonry, with all its profound philosophies, Ethics, Symbolry, Legends and Allegories, never could have originated or developed among the practical operative builders of Europe. He will positively know that our beloved Fraternity came down to us through the long drifting centuries from The Land of The Vedas—The birthplace of our great ancestors—The Aryans of India—And from a Venerable Association or Brotherhood of Perfect Masters of our own Royal Race.

In my endeavors to prove to you, my dear Brothers, the Origin and Antiquity of our beloved Fraternity, I have quoted from other writers, so that you might be enabled to get the opinions of men who have travelled and searched throughout the world as I. Therefore, if you will read over very carefully, what I have written in relation to Arab Masonry, you will most assuredly find, that—There was no Book of the Law when Abram drove Hager and Ishmael into the desert with only a jug of water and a Loaf of Bread. But before entering upon this subject permit me to quote you from Brother Hewit Brown 32°:

"Masonic traditions cannot hope to escape examination." This is just what every Masonic student would like every member of the Royal Craft to do.

For when it is examined, if it will not stand the test it would disintegrate, fall asunder and take its place among many other exploded legends of the past. To-day there is a spirit abroad, which does not hesitate to grasp antiquity by the throat, stare into its wrinkled face and demand upon what authority, or right, reason of authentic history it has founded its pretentions **to be.** I myself especially request every Brother Mason to investigate and search for himself and **Think and Reason for himself.** Do not believe anything, I may say or write **until you find that it is true.** (If you think it false reject it). In doing so I am positively certain that they will come to the same conclusions as myself, that—our beloved Fraternity is as I have herein before said, a **Living Institution,** destined to have part in all great Thoughts and Deeds of the world's to-morrow. What it stands for and what it teaches to Men and Masons, will point out the way that leads to **LIGHT** and **TRUTH,** which will enable every Masonic student, not only to understand and fully comprehend his **"First Promise,"** but how to keep it. They will also prove Masonry to be a most profound scientific philosophy. That it teaches to every initiate the duty he owes to his God, to his country, his neighbor and to himself, and that—Masonry is the depository of an ancient system of scientific knowledge, that the Wisdom belonging to the Fraternity is for the express purpose of helping humanity on the higher planes of spiritual development, throughout the world universal. That it originated under the shadow of the Hindu-kush mountains from a Venerable Association of Masters, who had

learned to KNOW, TO DARE, TO DO and To keep silent.

Before going farther, I want to **repeat what Brother Rawson discovered in his travels** through Arabia, etc., and what Brother W. H. Kingsbury recorded, because I desire thoroughly to impress on your mind and soul, "That the work in an Arab Lodge shows a close connection between the members of the ancient brotherhood of India, Egypt and Arabia, and also established the origin of the Bedouin Lodge.—**There is not a word in use in the modern lodge that has any reference to modern discoveries in science, or to the political, or religious changes of the last twenty centuries. Neither Christ nor Mohammed is mentioned.** This fact opens a charming vista to the antiquarian and philologist."

What I want my readers to thoroughly understand is that the Arab Mason in the Bedouin lodge could not have been obligated on either our Bible or the Koran, because, as I have already said, neither Christ nor Mohammed are mentioned. There is one thing certain and that is the Neophyte who was received into the lodges of Arabia, Egypt, Persia and India must have assumed obligations and they must have been sworn or obligated upon something, which they considered to be the most sacred symbol known by them. Therefore, in order to find what that symbol or emblem was, let us search the writings of the ancient Hebrews and we shall find, that **One** of the most sacred emblems or symbols of those people was the organs of generation, or **Man's Trinity.** This fact

is demonstrated all through all the writings of these ancient people.

One of the strongest proofs to me of the sacredness of the generative organs of man, is in the beginning of the twenty-third chapter of Deuteronomy. There we are told that he who is wounded in those parts or by some unfortunate accident loses his generative organs, could not enter into the congregation of the Lord. See also Leviticus 21-20.

From the above we find that the trinity of man was looked upon as something different from the other parts of the body, and it was held as the most sacred emblem or symbol known to man, **because it made man a creator.** Such things being the case, we find that in the days of Abram, Isaac and Jacob the people swore by or upon those organs of generation or the creative powers of man, because they were emblematic of **God, the Creator.** In Genesis, Chapter 24, 2d verse, we find Abram telling the chief of all his servants to "put I pray thee thy hand under my thigh" and swear by the Lord God of Heaven to do his (Abram's) bidding. Again we find in Genesis, Chapter 47, Verse 29, that Jacob asks the same thing of his son Joseph, "**put I pray thee thy hand under my thigh,**" when he made Joseph swear to take him out of the "Land of Egypt," and bury him with his father. And Joseph obligated himself upon the generative organs of his father Jacob.

Inman in his " Ancient Pagan and Modern Christian Symbolism," tells us that—"under thy thigh is a euphenism, for the words **'upon the symbol of the Creator.'** " I may point to two other passages in

which the **thigh,** (translated in the authorized version —**Loins)** is used periphrastically. See Genesis, Chapter 46, Verse 26, and Exodus, Chapter 1, Verse five.

During the Franco-Egyptian war, an Arab had been accused of being a spy by General Kleber. The man not only vehemently denied it, but when he saw himself still distrusted he uncovered himself before the whole military staff and swore upon his trinity, that he was guiltless.

Throughout the whole of the Eastern countries in the dim dawn of prehistoric ages, as well as in the present day, the virile organs of man were and are held in the greatest of veneration by the different peoples of these countries, and I do most firmly believe that long before their sacred writings were in existence the Craftsmen of those ancient days were most assuredly **Obligated** upon their **own generative organs, or the Linga-stone or symbol of the procreative forces of nature.**

If the candidate was not sworn upon either of the above he would most certainly have to be obligated on their emblem, such as the Sun-a-flame—a burning torch—an erect serpent, or a tree or stone that represented the phallus or creative powers of men.

CHAPTER XIII.

Book of the Law

From what I have said above we are positively certain that there was no book of the Law in the days of Abraham and we are also positively certain that there was no book of the law when Moses was lifted from the flowing waters of the River Nile. And we also positively know that there could have been no Book of The Law as it is today, when King David bought the threshing floor from Oman the Jubusite whereon to erect the temple to the Most High God of **Israel.**

In taking up this subject of the "BOOK OF THE LAW" I will quote you from my "Egypt, The Cradle of Ancient Masonry," because I feel that it will interest every Masonic student and will prove a most interesting subject, especially to all Royal Arch Masons. Their ancient traditions, which have been preserved for so long a time within the Chapter will now have to undergo a test of investigation in order to prove the verity of the assertion, "BOOK OF THE LAW." But, no matter if we are able to prove that it never existed, as is generally understood, the teachings that underlie the sacred symbol will ever remain one of the grandest features pertaining to the rites and ceremonies that should be in the Master Mason's degree where it rightfully belongs.

It is not with any irreverence toward the **so called** "BOOK OF THE LAW" that I approach this subject, but it is with the most profound veneration for the writings contained in the Old Testament. I simply wish to show you my dear friends and companions, that it could not have been what it is generally supposed to be, the canon of the Old Testament and the New combined, known as "The Holy Bible," which I have frequently seen used in the ceremonies of the Exaltation.

I have inquired in many countries, by what authority it is used, but could get no definite information in relation to my questioning. Now, this **"Book of The Law"** that is supposed to have been found and generally used in the Chapter of the Royal Arch is purely and simply the Holy Bible. I shall not enter into a long discussion upon the various translations of the Bible or try to prove which one is the most correct, but we will endeavor to find out something about the **"Book that was lost."**

History informs us that after the captivity, when the Jews were rebuilding their temple under their leader Zerubbabel, and while this was going on three very earnest sojourners applied for and received permission to assist in the good work and that one of the very first things that resulted from their labors was the discovery of the **"Book of The Law,"** which is said to have been lost since the time when Solomon lived and reigned. The "Book of The Law, **long lost** was now found and they gave praise to the Lord and from that time it has been preserved with other discoveries that were made at or about the same time.

Now, the only place in the Bible that refers to the discovery of the **"Book of The Law,"** is in Kings, Chapter 22 and Verse 8, wherein it tells us that Hilkieh, the High Priest, told Shapan the Scribe, that he had discovered the **"Book of The Law,"** in the **House of the Lord,** and possibly this discovery was the origin of the Book itself. But, let us who are searching for **LIGHT,** distinctly remember that—there is one thing positively certain, and that is—the book that was found by Shapan or our ancient companions, did not, nor could not have included the "New Testament," with the account of **The Life and Death of Christ the Master,** nor anything concerning him. For that reason we must omit that and confine ourselves strictly to the Old Testament, if we desire to find the **"Book of The Law."**

Now, if we are very careful in our investigations, we shall find that there is no positive certainty about the compilation of the various writings that go to make up the Old Testament, or by whom or in what manner, or what time they were compiled. According to some of the Hebrew Rabbis, Ezra was the one who began the **compilation** of the many historical, poetical and prophetical writings that composed the **Old Testament.** But **we** do not consider this information as thoroughly reliable. There is one thing positively certain, however, and that is—the compilation was not made until after the exile. Ezra may possibly have commenced the compilation of this great work, which was no doubt continued by his successors, who eventually completed it somewhere about the early part of the second century B. C.

In order to accomplish this great undertaking, it was necessary to write new works, based upon the traditions of these people, until at last the work was completed.

We now have the Old Testament, a very valuable and important collection of writings, but it is not the **Book** for which we are looking. This compilation is not the **"Book of The Law,"** although it may contain it. Therefore, in order to make our search complete and our investigations thorough, we shall have to strike out those books that were composed after the reign of Solomon and **search for the book that—had been lost** for so many hundred years. Consequently we will begin our elimination with **Ezra, Joel, Chronicles, Jeremia, Ecclesiastes, Daniel, Malachi and Jonah,** because these works were written after the Jews had been freed from their bondage in Persia, and in fact, long after Ezra had died and their temple had been completed. We must also throw out those beautiful poetical works, **The Psalms, Lamentations** and The Song of Solomon, as well as the whole of those profound philosophical aphorisms that are contained in the **Book of Proverbs.**

We shall also have to eliminate **Samuel, Ruth, Esther, Judges, Kings, Micah, Amos, Hosea,** and in fact, we are compelled to exclude the whole of the various works, or books, that go to make up the **canon of the Old Testament.** With the exception of the first five books, or the **Pentateuch,** which is composed of **Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy.** Joshua **may** have been written at about the same time that the preceding works were composed, but we will

put Joshua aside with the others and continue our search among the five remaining books, or the Pentateuch, for the **Long lost "Book of The Law."**

There is one thing that is positively certain and that is—previous to the exile, there was no **Old Testament such as we have today.** There were, however, a great many writings, no doubt held in great veneration by the Jewish people. The first form that all these promiscuous and scattered writings assumed was the Pentateuch, or the first five books that had been compiled and they were bound together into one volume, which was really and truly a compendium of **History and Law.** It began with the creation of the Universe, in Exodus, and ending with the death of Moses, in Deuteronomy. These five books have been generally ascribed to the Jewish Law-giver—**Moses,** but, from the general consensus of opinions of various authorities and from my own personal investigations, I find that—no less than four different people were the authors of these books. In order to converge them and make them appear the work of one mind and hand, the redactor was compelled to put in addition to his own writings so as to make them appear and read as one continuous history. But if you, my dear Brothers will go over these works carefully you will find for yourselves where they have been pieced or connected together and that after they were completed and formed into one volume, it was called and known as **"THE LAW."**

Now if we search carefully in this so-called **"Book of The Law,"** we shall most assuredly discover—three distinct legal codes in the Pentateuch, and yet not

one of them refers to either of the others and in some cases they are contradictory. Now this fact alone would most assuredly prove that they were written by different authors, or writers.

The FIRST collection is said to have been given by God to Moses at Mount Sinai and is known as the **"Book of the Covenant."** See Exodus, Chapter 20. For an account of the SECOND, see Leviticus, Chapter 26. The THIRD and last code we find in Deuteronomy and it was given to Moses on the East side of the Jordan. See Deuteronomy, Chapter 4, Verse 44, to the end of the Chapter; and just before his death, in the Land of Moab, in sight of the "Promised Land," which the Lord showed unto Moses, but into which He would not permit him to enter, **see Deuteronomy Chapter 34.**

Now my friends and readers, I do not desire to enter into a long discussion upon the statement that **"Moses was not the sole author of the Pentateuch,** but I will simply say that if there be any companion who is in doubt upon this subject, they can easily verify my assertions by searching for the proof and judging for themselves.

From the above we find that the Old Testament begins with the creation of the world and ends with the prophets, some time during the fourth century B. C., after the Babylonian captivity. We also find that a compilation of these writings were collected and thus formed the canon of the Old Testament. In our search for the **"Book of The Law"** we were compelled to cut out nearly all the books of that sacred volume in our search for that which had been lost.

We now find ourselves with the Pentateuch, which contains three distinct legal codes to which I have already referred. One of these must be the **"Book of the Law,"** for they existed long before Solomon lived and reigned, and it was no doubt one of these that was deposited in the Ark of the Covenant, with the Pot of Manna and the Budding Rod. And before concluding this subject I desire further to state that, the canon of the Old Testament was not and could not have been in existence during the reign of either King David or his son Solomon. We certainly admit and say, that there were at that time only a few scattered and promiscuous writings, which were no doubt held as sacred by a great many people at that time. These writings composed a history and a variety of legal codes that were considered to have been written by Moses and were known as the Pentateuch or the **"Law of Moses,"** but which I have clearly proven were written by different peoples at different times and here I leave it in your hands.

In relation to the above, there is one thing that I know we shall all agree upon, and that is—the canon of the Old Testament is **not the "Book of The Law."**

From what I have written you will be enabled to trace Masonry from the earliest ages down through the ruins of Empires of every age to the present day, and to our beloved Rite in America. In so doing you will positively **know,** that our Fraternity could not, nor did not originate in the Guilds and Builders of Rome, or any other country. You will also realize the fact, that Masonry does not concern itself in the

building of Temples, Abbies or Castles of either brick or stone. You will also realize the fact that Masonry taught a belief in God and the building of the Temple of human character, that Spiritual Temple, not made by hands.

From what I have written you will also find that it proves the statements made by our Rituals, wherein it says—Masonry has been in existence from time immemorial and that the best men of every epoch of the world's history have been members of our Fraternity.

CHAPTER XIV.

History of The Ritual

In speaking of the Ritual, let me quote you from an article that was published in "The Masonic Monthly" of Boston, Mass., over fifty years ago. It was titled **"HISTORY OF THE RITUAL,"** and it was re-published by one of the best Masonic papers on earth and the best known,—"THE TYLER-KEY-STONE," the July issue of the year 1914—and, I, thinking it would be of interest to my readers quote you in full the reprint.

"Of the thousands upon thousands of candidates, who annually pass through the ceremonies of the several degrees conferred in Masonic lodges, but very few know anything of the history of the Ritual of the Order. This is especially to be regretted for the reason that there is among the members of the craft generally, a strong aversion to any change however slight in anything connected with the Ritual for fear that some of these ancient **waymarks** may be infringed upon or obliterated.

Previous to the revival of Masonry in 1717, and the organization of our present system of Grand Lodge and Chartered Lodges, the secrets of the Order were undoubtedly communicated and the instructions and explanations given to the candidates in such form of language as the presiding Master or Warden

could command at the time. If he were a person gifted in language and his mind well stored with the facts and lessons of scriptural Masonic history, his explanations would be full and interesting and his instructions clear and explicit. If, on the other hand, the presiding officers were less fortunate in these respects the traditions and moral instructions would be set forth in style and language corresponding even to a meagre and barren explanation of the vital points. It is very probable, but not certain that these explanations and instructions,—or lectures, as they were technically called,—by long usage and frequent repetition gradually assumed a set form of words, which form was transmitted orally from one generation to another.

Soon after the reorganization of the Order in 1717, the Grand Lodge of England ordered the ancient constitution and charges of the Order to be compiled and printed, which was done by Dr. William Anderson, a distinguished scholar and Free-Mason. This volume, known as "Anderson's Constitution," was published in 1723 and was the first printed book upon Free-Masonry ever issued.

In his book of constitutions, Dr. Anderson, assisted by Dr. Desaguliers, arranged the lectures for the first time into the form of question and answer. Dr. Oliver informs us, that "the first lecture extended to the greater length, but the replies were circumscribed within a very narrow compass. The second was shorter and the third, called the Master part, contained only seven questions and examinations. So favorably were these improved "lectures" received, that the

Grand Lodge of England, (then the only Grand Lodge in existence, except the Old Grand Lodge, or Assembly, at York, which soon afterward expired) adopted the form and ordered them to be given in all the Lodges. Thus was compiled and disseminated the first regular form or system of Masonic "lectures."

The progress of the Order, subsequent to the date above mentioned, was unprecedented in all its previous history and in a few years the imperfections of Dr. Anderson's loudly called for a revision. This was finally accomplished in 1732 by Martin Clare, an eminent Mason and who was afterwards Deputy Grand Master. Clare's amendments consisted of but little more than the addition of a few moral and scriptural admonitions and the insertion of a simple allusion to the human senses and to the theological ladder.

A few years later, Thomas Dunckerly, an accomplished scholar and who was considered the most intelligent Free-Mason of his day, considerably extended and improved the Lectures. Among other things, he first gave to the theological ladder its three most important rounds.

According to Dr. Oliver, Dunckerly added many types of Christ. This be it remembered, was only one hundred years ago and is an explicit statement of the addition of the first Christian allusion to be found in the Ritual of Free-Masonry.

The lectures of Dunckerly continued to be the standard in England until 1763, when Rev. William Hutchinson revised and improved them. Hutchinson soon boldly claimed the third degree to be exclusively Christian.

He regarded the degrees as progressive steps, or schools in religion. He believed that the knowledge of the God of Nature formed the first state of our profession; that the worship of the Deity, under the Jewish Law is described in the last and highest order. In the lectures of Hutchinson are first introduced the three great pillars—**Wisdom, Strength** and **Beauty**—as supports of a Lodge. He also appears to have introduced for the first time the cardinal virtues of **Prudence, Fortitude, Temperance** and **Justice.** He also gave to the Star its Christian significance,—in fine, he appears to have exerted his utmost ingenuity to render the degrees emphatically Christian in their allusions and teachings.

Hutchinson's system continued in force but a few years. His lectures gave place in 1772 to the revision of William Preston. The latter not only revised, but greatly extended the lectures and his system continued to be the standard in England until the "Union" of the two Grand Lodges of that kingdom in 1813, when a committee of which Dr. Hemming was the chairman and leading mind, compiled the form now generally used in the English Lodges and known as the Hemming Lectures.

During the unhappy division of the Craft in England between 1739 and 1813, differences had also crept into the lectures and at the Union above mentioned the committee endeavored to compile a system which, while it should be in conformity to the spirit of Free-Masonry and in harmony with the ancient Landmarks, should be a sort of a compromise between the forms in previous use by the two rival organizations.

The Hemming lectures differ widely from any others previously introduced. A few of these differences may properly be mentioned. English lodges are now dedicated to Moses and Solomon, instead of the two Saints John, as before. And their Masonic festival falls on the Wednesday following St. George's Day, April 23rd, that Saint being the patron of England. The symbols of an E A are a 24-inch rule, a gavel and chisel. Those of a M M are a pair of compasses, a skirret and a pencil. The ornaments of a M M Lodge are "a porch, a dormer and a stone pavement." Instead of following the example of his predecessor, in introducing new Christian allusions, Dr. Hemming expunged several in use previously. The system, however, never met the cordial approval even of the English brethren and though beautifully elaborate, contains so many incongruities and departures from the more simple lectures of Preston, that it can never be recognized as a universal system. The verbal ritual of Preston was introduced into this country by two English brethren, who had been members of one of the principal Lodges of Instruction in London and was by them communicated to Thomas Smith Webb, an accomplished and distinguished Mason of New England. According to the testimony of Webb himself, he made but little change in the system of Preston. In the first edition of his Free-Mason's Monitor, published in 1797 he says—

"The observations on the first three degrees are principally taken from 'Preston's Illustration of Masonry,' with some necessary alterations." Mr. Preston's distribution of the first lecture into six, the sec-

ond into **four** and the **third** into **twelve** sections, not being agreeable to the present mode of working, they are arranged in this work according to the general practice. It appears plain that Webb followed Preston quite closely and one who will take the trouble to compare them will find that Cross and after him, all the rest have copied nearly verbatum from Webb, so that the esoteric portions of the ritual, as contained in Monitors, Charts, Manuals and Trestle boards, are but little more than reprints of Preston's Illustrations of Masonry.

But my dear brothers I do not desire to enter into a long discussion at this time or any other in relation to the Ritual-makers in England at the beginning of the eighteenth century. It makes no difference to me whether an assemblage of so-called Masons met on the 24th day of June, (Saint John's day) or any other day, to formulate a Ritual at the Tavern of the Goose and Gridiron, the Apple Tree Inn, the Rummer and Grapes, Pig and Fiddle or any other of those Beer and Rum drinking places. Or, whether the Hemming or Martin Clare's lectures were better than the Preston's and Webb's. To me they are all utterly absurd and perfectly ridiculous and not worthy the attention of the Masonic student who is searching for Light and Truth.

Let me tell you what I have so often written upon and emphasized in my lectures that—Ritualism is not Masonry and this fact I desire to impress firmly upon your minds. Every Master Mason who has been "duly and truly prepared" and found worthy and intellectually qualified, will most assuredly know that the Rit-

ualistic ceremonies of Initiation, Passing and Raising do not unfold to us that beautiful system of Morality, veiled in Allegory and Illustrated by Symbols. In no part do they open up to us the sublime Truths that lie buried beneath them. The **true** meaning of the Allegories and Symbols must be carefully searched for before the candidate can ever hope to understand what they represent and teach us.

The Ritual makers, of whom I have referred to above, put in a lot of symbols and then finding them unsuitable afterward rejected them, replacing them by others equally as absurd, **Cross for instance.**

Our revered Brother, the late Albert Pike, speaking in relation to this subject says, in Morals and Dogma, page 204: "There is no sight under the sun more pitiful and ludicrous at once than the Prestons and Webbs, not to mention the later incarnations, of Dullards and common-place, undertaking to explain the old symbols of Masonry and adding to and improving them, or inventing new ones. To the circle, enclosing the central point and itself traced between two parallel lines, a figure purely Kabalistic, these persons have added the superimposed Bible and even reared on that the ladder with the three or nine rounds and then giving a vapid interpretation of the whole so profoundly absurd as actually to excite admiration.

CHAPTER XV.

Lack of Interest by the Craft

Before entering fully and comprehensively into the subject of the Ritual and Ritualistic ceremonies, which will be treated thoroughly and comprehensively in another volume of this series, I desire to express my astonishment at the apparent lack of interest taken in Masonic literature by the vast majority of the brethren calling themselves Free-Masons. It is a lamentable fact that an immense number of brothers, who call themselves Master Masons, have no more idea of the esoteric teachings of our beloved Fraternity than the Solicitant, who has not yet received the **"Light,"** being bewildered as it were by its refulgence. If you take the trouble to converse upon the teachings or symbology of the various degrees, you will find many sadly deficient upon the most simple subjects. Continue your investigations and you will most assuredly find that seemingly they have no apparent interest in the actual knowledge needed to make them acquainted with the Ancient Landmarks of the Fraternity, or even to converse upon general topics of interest to the intellectual student seeking MORE, LIGHT, MORE TRUTH; aye, more knowledge, not of Masonic interest only, but in the wonderful advance of Science, Philosophy, etc., as evidenced by researches in the realms of literature and the many remarkable discov-

eries made in the scientific world and utilized in this wonderful twentieth century.

The true Mason will never be satisfied with the the simple ceremonies of the various degrees to which he has attained, but will search among the beautiful symbols permeating our beloved Fraternity, to discover the sublimity and grandeur of the profound TRUTHS underlying each and every one of them. Every word in these degrees is frought with the deepest significance. Every answer that **you** give at your initiation forms a sentence, which is the **key** to the symbolic degrees. And it is his duty to endeavor to discover the hidden meaning of every symbol, as well as to understand the true meaning of every word. If he has been earnest in his endeavors as a Master Mason, and if he has passed through the profoundly beautiful and magnificent ceremonies pertaining to our Ancient Scottish Rite degrees, he will at length understand their seeming mysteries and this translated knowledge will make him a Mason in Truth and in Spirit plainly pointing out his Path and Duty. The great majority of those calling themselves Masons do not give enough study to the preceding degrees before entering upon the threshold of another. They do not take the time to consider or realize that the various degrees in Masonry are like the links in a great chain connecting one with the other, forming among themselves a grand whole; and as I have often told you in my lectures, let me now repeat that:—the proper understanding of one degree is a **key-note** of comprehension to the one above. Probably you may get a better idea of my meaning when I say, that—the whole of

the degrees of The Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite are analogous to Mathematics, because in order to thoroughly understand the science of numbers and arithmetic we must begin at addition, pass on to subtraction, rise to multiplication and then advance to division and so on. As without the knowledge of the one we could not possibly understand the true meaning of the other, and so it is with the whole of Masonry, but more especially so with the beautiful degrees in Scottish Rite Masonry.

Thousands of brothers who call themselves Master Masons do not care to study or learn the true meaning of the beautiful symbols permeating our beloved Fraternity. But they take the various degrees of our Scottish Rite bodies often out of simple curiosity, while many others acquire them in the hope that it will aid them in their business affairs. Again many are desirous of passing rapidly through the various degrees and be received as a "MASTER OF THE ROYAL SECRET" to be enabled to wear the jewel of that degree, suspended from a watch chain, who yet knows no more of "THE ROYAL SECRET" than a child unborn. Or possibly, with an insane desire to become—**A SHRINER.** AND THAT IS NOT MASONRY. Such brothers are simply **Drones** in the "Masonic Hive," and not **true** workers, otherwise they would endeavor to learn and acquire a knowledge of the profound philosophies and scientific problems, which permeate our most illustrious Fraternity. But still there are a vast number of brothers who are earnestly searching through the symbology of the various degrees in Scottish Rite Masonry for the ex-

press purpose of understanding the grand truths that are contained in its sublime philosophies and solving the problems of Life, Death, the Immortality of the Soul and the development of the human intellect. These brothers will ever be patient with the drones and sluggards. They will strive to help them along the path leading to greater exertions. And will endeavor to plant within their hearts an earnest desire to know **the Holy Doctrine** and the KEY to the "Royal Secret."

It is very difficult to solve some of the symbols of the Ancient Mysteries and Ancient Masonry, and many of our modern writers give a wrong interpretation to them, often leading person astray who are trying to understand them. The old secrets and symbols have been veiled or hidden on purpose to conceal their real meaning from the **Profane,** and yet the earnest student, who has obtained the KEY through profound study, finds no difficulty in coming to an understanding of their sublime teachings.

The word **Reveal** is a very curious and mis-leading one if taken in its general accepted sense, because the Latin word **"revelare,"** from which we derive the word **reveal** or **revealed,** is just the opposite to the general accepted meaning of it in English. For **revealare** signifies to reveil and not to reveal, **i. e.,** from **RE again or back,** and **velare** to hide, or cover:—to veil from the eyes of those who were unworthy.

One of the first to reveal, (**reveil** or hide) the symbology of the Ancient Mysteries of India, so as to preserve and practice them in the valley of the Nile, was Hermes, and long centuries after him the Jewish

Lawgiver, Moses, who reveiled or hid away in the Wisdom of the Ancient Egyptians, all the Egypto-Chaldean theological legends and allegories.

Albert Pike was of the same opinion as myself in relation to this subject, for he says in **"Morals and Dogma,"** page 104: "Masonry, like all the Religions, all the Mysteries, Hermaticism and Alchemy, conceals its secrets from all, except the Adepts and Sages, or the Elect. And uses false explanations and misinterpretations of its symbols to **mislead those who desire to be mislead** to conceal the Truth, which it calls Light from them and to draw them away from it. Truth is not for those who are unworthy or unable to receive it, or would prevent it. So God Himself incapacitates many men, by color blindness to distinguish colors and leads the masses away from the highest Truth, giving them the power to attain only so much of it as is profitable to them to know. Every age has a religion suited to its capacity. The teachers even of Christianity are in general the most ignorant of the true meaning of that which they teach. There is no book of which so little is known as the Bible. To most who read it, it is as incomprehensible as the Sohar. So Masonry, zealously conceals its secrets and intentionally leads conceited interpreters astray. Let me again repeat, there is no sight under the sun more pitiful and ludicrous at once than the Prestons and the Webbs, not to mention the later incarnations of Dullards and common-place, undertaking to 'explain' the old symbols of Masonry."

Masonry, successor of the mysteries, still follows the ancient manner of teaching. Her ceremonies are

like the ancient mystic shows,—not the reading of an essay. But the opening problem, requiring research and constituting philosophy, the arch expounder. The symbols are the instruction she gives. The lectures are endeavors, often partial and one-sided, to interpret these symbols. He who would become an accomplished Mason, must not be content merely to hear or even to understand the lectures; he must be aided by them and they having as it were marked out the way for him, to study, interpret and develop these symbols for himself.

CHAPTER XVI.

The Whole of Masonry Not in the First Three Degrees

There are a great number of Master Masons who firmly believe that the Blue Lodge or Symbolic degrees contain the whole of Masonry. But this assertion clearly proves that they have not as yet fully comprehended—What Masonry is, or what it stands for and teaches, or they would never make such an assertion. It also clearly proves that they do not realize that—Masonry is a progressive scientific philosophy, veiled in Allegory and illustrated by symbols. We will admit that if the first three degrees had not been tampered with, by the Crosses, Prestons and Webb's, the fundamental principles of a pure scientific philosophy would be plainly seen and thoroughly understood by all those who had been "Duly and Truly Prepared," and who had been found worthy to Receive.

The first three degrees in Masonry are simply the foundation, upon which has been builded a most profound Scientific, Philosophy, Easily Learned, and thoroughly comprehended by all those who have been found worthy to Receive it. Let me make myself fully understood, by saying, that the fundamental principles of Masonry are latent in the Symbolic de-

grees. But let it be thoroughly understood that, until the Master Mason has taken the Ineffable and profound, philosophical degrees of our beloved Scottish Rite, he will never be enabled to understand them. For what they symbolize and teach have come down to us from a Venerable Association of Perfect Masters of India, the Mazdean philosophers of Persia and the Hierophants of the ancient Egyptian Mysteries.

In the Science of Numbers or Arithmetic, there are certain "Rules" running through the whole series for our guidance and proper understanding of the whole series or science. Therefore, if a man has only a simple knowledge of the **First Three Rules** alone, Addition, Subtraction and Multiplication, what could he know of Proportion, Square-Rout, Mensuration, Algebra, Trigonometry, Conic, Sections, etc. Consequently by the same ruling, a Master Mason, who has only received the first three degrees in a Symbolic Lodge, would know comparatively nothing of the sublime philosophical teachings of the higher degrees of Scottish Rite Masonry.

Some years ago during a visit to Chicago, I was sitting, chatting with the late Brother Gil W. Barnard, 33rd, in his office in presence of another mutual Friend and Brother, the late Carson Smith, 33rd, upon the subject now under discussion. When Brother Bernard arose and brought from an adjacent shelf a copy of the May number of the "Canadian Free-Mason, pages 336 **et seq,** and read the following: "Frequently we hear the remark that all of Free-Masonry is contained in the First Three degrees. . . . . I cannot be justly charged with partiality when I claim

that all that belongs to Free-Masonry is **not** contained in the Lodge degrees. The Mark and Royal Arch degrees of the Chapter, as well as those of the Royal and Select Masters, are not only essentiably Masonic in character, but are as much needed for a proper understanding of our legends and mysteries, as any part of the first three degrees. Some say **(and truthfully),** that the Masonic portions of the degrees mentioned, were taken from the second and third degrees. But that only goes to prove my position. Another feature and to me it is a much stronger argument, for the usefulness of the so-called higher degrees, is, that in the working of them, we find an elaboration and illustration in detail of the best and strongest points, contained in the Lodge work. . . . . Nothing is more Masonic than the teaching regarding the work and wages of the Mark Master. And equally so, is the lesson contained in the Royal Arch and the Grand Omnific Royal Arch Word—**Holiness to the Lord** is the essence of Masonry. . . . . Brethren, it is true beyond question, in my experience that the Lodge is strengthened and made more useful through the lessons received by their members in Chapter, Council and Commandry. And the beautiful—Aye —Sublime teachings of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite.

One of the very first things every Master Mason will discover, will be that the secrets which lie concealed, in our Legends, Symbols and Allegories, are not taught openly in our Lodges, Chapters and Councils. They are known most certainly, but they are not given out promiscuously to every Brother. He is left

to find the true meaning of them, by and for himself alone. In having the first three degrees conferred upon him, he will not receive that which is said to have been lost. Neither will he understand anything pertaining to the ritualistic ceremonies, excepting, the parrot-like lessons he has to learn from his appointed Instructor. There are lessons to be learned, but he must search, amidst the rubbish of ritualistic ceremonies himself, in order to discover their true meaning. Then when he passes from the square and compasses, he will find himself far better enabled to appreciate that which lies before him.

As Albert Pike truly says in his Morals and Dogma, the symbols of the wise always become the idols of the ignorant multitude. The Symbolic degrees are but the outer court or portico of the Temple. Part of the symbols are displayed there to the Initiate, but he is intentionally misled by false interpretations in the so-called York Rite of Masonry. The whole body of the Royal and Sacerdotal Art was hidden centuries since, in the High degrees, that it is even yet, impossible to solve many of the enigmas which they contain. It is well enough for the mass of those calling themselces Master Masons, to imagine, that all is contained in the First Three or Symbolic Degrees. And who ever attempts to undeceive them, will labor in vain. And without any true reward violate his obligations. Masonry is a veritable Sphinx, buried to the head in the sands of misinterpretations heaped around it.

I have often lectured and frequently written upon the Three degrees of Masonry, and I must certainly say, that I agree with what Brother Albert Pike has

said about the Blue Lodge degrees, and his comparing them to the "broken columns of a roofless Druidical Temple in their rude and mutilated greatness," as perfectly correct. And every Masonic Student who will carefully examine the Symbolic degree of the so-called York Rite, will immediately recognize their mutilated condition. And they will also find that there is nothing complete or perfect in them. Even that which every entered Apprentice and Fellow-Craft looks forward to has been lost and he is given a substitute to be used by every Master Mason, until future generations shall discover the lost one.

Masonic Traditions carry us back to the most remote ages of antiquity. Away back beyond the dim dawn of pre-historic civilization. Long drifting centuries before the banks of the Nile were populated and adorned with tombs and temples, throughout the length and breadth of that wondrous valley of the Nile. In this connection let me quote you from **"Mystic Masonry"** by my **Friend and Brother** J. D. BUCK:

"Masonry deals largely with the Ethics and Symbolism of the Ancient Mysteries. The writer believes that through the well-timed efforts of Masons today, the grandest achievements in knowledge ever gained by Man, which were originally concealed in the Great Mysteries of Antiquity. And in time became lost to the world, may again be recovered. In the strictest sense this knowledge has never really been lost, as there have always existed those who were possessed of the Great Secret. And it was written in a universal language of Symbolism, that the **Wise** among all na-

tions and throughout all time might read it, as it were, in their own language. It was also written in parable and allegory, so that the unlettered and common people might not be deprived of its wise precepts and of its force, in shaping character, dissipating ignorance and inspiring hope. Thus Ancient Wisdom is the fountain, from which Masonry takes its rise. The true Science of Symbolism, in time became lost; the Temples of Initiation fell into decay or were destroyed by Priests and Potentates, jealous of their influence. For many weary centuries, Men have been trying to recover the **Lost Key** and to restore the ancient Wisdom from the parables and allegories in which it had been concealed. But progress in the inverse order, is not only necessarily slow, and uncertain, but all such attempts have, more or less, given rise to fantastic flights of the imagination and resulted in confusion, rather than in enlightenment. The result has been to bring the whole subject under contempt and to make the name 'Mysticism' mean something vague and uncertain, if not altogether foolish, to those ignorant of its true meaning.

The causes that have led up to the re-veiling of the Ancient Wisdom and Masonic Symbols, have been many. Some of which have been previously mentioned, such as Christian bigotry, ignorant fanaticism, misinterpretations and alterations, by those who desired to change the hieroglyphical characters or inscriptions and symbols in order to suit their own ends and further their own designs. I have spoken about the destruction of Symbols, etc., so that you, my dear

friends, may give some thought to this subject yourselves.

The Secret Doctrine tells that—However, superhuman the efforts of the early Christian or Church Fathers to obliterate the Secret Doctrine from the memory of Man, they all failed. Truth, can never be killed, hence the failure to sweep away from the face of the earth, every vestige, of that ancient Wisdom. And to shackle and gag every witness who testified to it. Let one only think of the thousands, aye, millions of manuscrips burnt. Of monuments, with their too indiscreet inscriptions and pictorial symbols, torn down and trampled into dust, by fanatics in every country on earth.

I have written upon this particular subject, my dear Brothers and Friends, in order that you may thoroughly understand that—**If** the First Three Degrees do contain the whole of Masonry, the Master Mason will never be able to understand or comprehend but the ridimentary part of any of them. In fact, he will never attain to a thorough knowledge of any one of those degrees, until he has been initiated into the higher Degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite. **And then only** will he be enabled to thoroughly appreciate the beauty of the Symbolic Degrees. And then he will positively know that—although they do not include the whole of Masonry, they do most certainly contain the **KEY** to the Inaffable, Chevalric and Philosophical degrees of the Scottish Rite, which most assuredly does contain the **WHOLE OF MASONRY.** Consequently, every as-

piring Brother who is desirous of fulfilling his Vow and Keeping his First Promise—**to improve himself in Masonry,** should never stop at the Third Degree. Because, he has only received the Light and has been raised to Life so that he may be enabled to "Live The Life" and continue on the Path that leads to higher planes of Spiritual unfoldment, and to a proper understanding of the profound Wisdom that pertains to the Higher Degrees in Masonry. As he climbs his view widens out, and his horizon expands. He will begin to realize, not only the honor that has been conferred upon him, but also the Duties and Responsibilities that belong to all those who have been permitted to receive the glorious teaching that are embodied in the ceremonies of the Scottish Rite of Masonry of the Southern Jurisdiction. One of the very first things that he will learn, will be, that he carries within the sanctuary of his own Soul, the Lamp of Reason. And he will be impressed with the fact that—"Man should not live for himself alone."

In all that I have written and all that is following in these pages, I have endeavored to give you positive proof, not only of the Origin and Antiquity of Masonry, but what it stands for and what it teaches. Therefore, I ask all my readers and Brothers, to think, meditate and Reason upon what is to be found in the Harmonics of Evolution, the Psycological Crime and the Great Work. And upon that which I shall to the best of my ability endeavor to explain and lay clearly before you. Because, I consider Masonic knowledge, to be an absolute essential to the attainment of that perfection, upon which depend the

Higher Degrees. And toward which, we should ever strive with an unceasing effort. Therefore, in order that you may attain to greater knowledge and more earnest devotion to Masonry, I ask you to read very carefully every page of this work, for it will positively give you Light.

Let me assure you, my dear Brothers, that the teachings of that Venerable Brotherhood of Ancient India have never changed. That all its sublimely beautiful philosophies are to be found today, amidst the rubbish of innovations, that have crept into our beloved Fraternity from sources which I have so often spoken of in my lectures. Yet, notwithstanding this fact, if we search very carefully, we shall most assuredly find **that** for which we are searching—LIGHT.

It is to be deplored that an immense number of Brothers calling themselves Master Masons, have no more idea of the Esoteric teaching of Free-Masonry, than the Man who has just made application for admission into the Fraternity and has not yet passed between the columns. If you take the trouble to converse with them upon the subject of Masonry, its symbology, or the teaching in the various Degrees, you will most assuredly find them, sadly deficient upon the most simple subjects of the Esoteric meaning of the Allegories, Legends and Symbols. They know comparatively nothing. Continue your investigations and you will find some who seemingly have no apparent interest in the actual knowledge needed to make them acquainted with the Ancient Land-Marks of Masonry. You will also discover that there are a

great many, who are not able to converse upon the general topics of interest, to the intellectual Masonic Student, who is seeking **More Light,** more Truth—aye more knowledge, not of Masonic interest alone, but in the wonderful advance of Art, Science and Philosophy.

The true Mason will never be satisfied with the simple ceremonies of the various Blue Lodge Degrees to which he has advanced. He will most assuredly search for himself among the Legends, Allegories and Symbols of the various Degrees, in order to discover their true meaning and the underlying Truths in each and every one of them. In so doing he will soon begin to realize the fact, that every thing he himself says, every position in which he finds himself, is fought with the deepest significance. He will also discover that it is his bounden Duty to strive to discover the hidden meaning of every symbol in Masonry. Not until our Student has meditated long upon the Ethics and Symbolry, will he be enabled to understand their true meaning. He will find that a knowledge of what they teach and their fulfillment will make him a Mason in Truth and Spirit and point out his path and Duty. And I earnestly desire that every Master Mason should positively know that his Obligation does not make him a Master Mason in the true sense of the word. Only by keeping that Obligation. And fulfilling your Vow or **First Promise** can you ever hope to become a Master Mason, in word and deed.

The great majority of the Royal Craft do not give enough study to the first or the Entered Apprentice Degree, before entering or crossing the threshold of

another. They do not seem to know that a thorough comprehension of the very first Degree, is the **Key** to the one above. As I have so often said, in my lectures, the various degrees of Masonry, are analogous to Mathematics or the Science of Numbers. Because, in order to thoroughly understand the Science of Numbers or Arithmetic, we must begin at addition and come to a thorough comprehension of what it teaches. Then with this knowledge gained we can safely pass on to subtraction. And with its aid we may rise to multiplication, when we shall fully realize the fact that we have now the real fundamentals of the Science. Now, having the Light of those three, we may safely Advance, on to Division, and so on, to the very highest problems of spherical Trigonometry, etc. Remember, without the knowledge of the very first, we could not possibly understand the true meaning of the others. Thus it is in Masonry and its various degrees. It would be simply impossible for any one to understand a higher degree without a thorough comprehensive knowledge of the one below. Therefore, my dear Brothers, begin at the beginning and know your lesson well.

CHAPTER XVII.

How to Live the Life

There are thousands of Masons who do not care to Study or learn the true meaning of our beautiful system of Morality or the profound philosophy underlying each and every one in Masonry. There are large numbers who enter our portals and pass between the columns out of simple curiosity. Others earnestly desire to attain the very highest degree, in hopes that it will be an aid to them in their business affairs. There are others who are exceedingly anxious to get the Shrine. Again there are others who pass rapidly through the various degrees in order to be received as a MASTER OF THE ROYAL SECRET and wear the jewel of that Degree, and yet, know no more of **The Royal Secret** than a child unborn. Such Brothers are simply Drones in the busy hive of Masonry. Such an ones are most assuredly Drones and not true workers, otherwise they would endeavor to learn and acquire at least a rudimentary knowledge of the profound philosophies and scientific problems which permeate the various degrees of our most Illustrious Fraternity. Yet, notwithstanding this fact, there are a vast number of true Brothers who are earnestly working and searching through the various degrees of Masonry for the express purpose of understanding the sublime **Truths** contained in those philosophical

teachings. They are no doubt earnestly striving to solve the problem of **How to "Live The Life."** These Brothers will most assuredly be ever patient with the "Drones." And they will, to the best of their ability, strive earnestly and incessantly to assist them along the path that leads to **LIGHT AND LIBERTY.** They will also earnestly strive to help them to comprehend that great and profound problem of PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY. Because that Venerable Association or Brotherhood of Perfect Masters in India discovered and taught in the dim and misty ages of the past that: **"PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY** is a fixed and immutable principle of nature and a **Law of Individual Life** and that there are no substitutes or antidotes for it. They have learned, therefore, long ages ago, that there is absolutely no plan or method possible, whereby Individual Intelligence may avoid it or evade it, or escape the natural results of its personal application to each and every Intelligent Soul."

Did not the Master Christ teach the same thing when he said: **"God is not mocked that which you sow that must you also reap."**

The T. K. says, in the **"GREAT WORK,"** page 386, paragraphs 1, 2 and 3: "Slowly, laboriously and often times reluctantly, it is at last borne in upon the intelligent consciousness of every Student, that there is but one way whereby the problem of **Personal Responsibility** may ever be solved and that is by **'The Living of a Life.'**

"Let him stop at this point and dwell for at least one silent and intense moment on the ominous sig-

nificance of these five simple, but magical words **'THE LIVING OF A LIFE.'**

"Then let him ask himself, how many there are today who are seeking or who think they are seeking for the hidden mysteries and vital truths of Life **(The Life that is and the Life that is to come),** who would stop, hesitate, then turn away, if they but know what every Student of Natural Science must come to know, **viz.:** that the definite knowledge and the independent Spiritual and psychical power for which they are seeking, can never be obtained or acquired in any manner whatsoever, except as a natural and scientific result of—THE LIVING OF A LIFE, in full, and willing compliance with the Constructive Principle in Individual Life."

Let me assure you, my dear Brothers, that only by fulfilling **The Law** and **Living the Life,** can you ever hope to rise to higher planes of Spiritual unfoldment and travel in foreign countries and receive a Master's Wages.

Every Masonic Student will find it very difficult to solve some of the problems and Symbols of the "Great School," and Scottish Rite Masonry, as well as those in our Blue Degrees. For many of our Modern writers give a wrong impression and interpretation of them. Often leading astray many of our Masonic Students who are trying to solve and understand them and their true meaning.

Our revered Brother, the late General Albert Pike, speaking in relation to this subject said, and I again repeat: "There is no sight under the sun more pitiful and ludicrous at once than the Prestons and

Webb's, not to mention the later incarnations of Dullards and commonplace, undertaking to explain, "the old symbols of Masonry. And adding to and improving them," or inventing new ones. To the circle enclosing the central point and itself traced between two parallel lines a figure purely Kabalistic, these persons have added the superimposed Bible. And even raised on that the ladder with three or nine rounds. And after giving a rapid interpretation of the whole, so profoundly absurd, as actually to excite admiration.

I have no desire to go into the subject of Esoteric Masonry and point out to you the hidden meaning of many of the things that you have seen and heard; and yet do not understand. Because, I shall leave that to another volume of this series. Right here, and now, I simply want to tell you that the old secrets and symbols, have been reveiled or hidden, on purpose to conceal their true meaning from the profane. Notwithstanding this fact, the earnest student who has obtained the **Key** through profound Study, will find no difficulty in coming to a thorough comprehension of their true meaning and sublime teachings.

The Great School in India had their watch-words. Which explained to the members thereof, the True Philosophy of Life. And the philosophy of present action and future hope **(See Harmonies, page 463).** They were used originally in the hoary ages of the past, as they should be used by the Lineal descendants of that Great Brotherhood—The School of Natural Science and Scottish Rite Masonry of the Southern Jurisdiction. These Watch-Words are—A., TO

KNOW—B., TO DARE—C., TO DO—D., TO KEEP SILENT.

The meaning of this A, B, C, D of Wisdom and direction signifies to all the members of the School and its branches, as well as all members of The Kadosh that, A—signifies the acquisition of positive knowledge. **B**—The Moral Courage to uphold it. **C**—To desseminate and propogate that knowledge to all those who have been Duly and Truly prepared and found worthy to Receive it. **D**—To keep silent stands for Humility and humbleness of heart and Soul, combined with true Loyalty to the Cause and Work. Consequently we of the School, and Scottish Rite Masonry of the Southern Jurisdiction do not believe in what Peter said or what his followers—the Priests, Bishops and Cardinals of the Romish Church preach and practice. Because they teach to all their members that absolute obedience to their commands and demands are the primary, fundamental and essential **Duty** of each and every individual member thereof. And they are made to believe that there **is no sin more damnable than the unpardonable one of disobedience of the Church, or a wilful disregard, of the absolute authority of the hierarchy of that institution.** For they lay claim to Divine authority, to remit the penalties of the sins of their members. They positively assert and declare that **they** hold the Keys to the Binding and Loosing. That they have the power to punish the sinner or absolve him from the consequences of his sin or sins—providing he has the current coin of the realm to compensate them for their time and trouble.

My dear Brothers, I ask you again to read **THE GREAT WORK,** because, it is diamentrically opposed to methods adopted by the hierarchy of the Roman Catholic Church. If you will read the **Great Work,** it will impress upon every reader in such manner, as to inspire him to immediate action, the paramount fact, that it is his own best interests, his own greatest good and his own largest possibility of happiness, both now and in the future life to come, to enter at once upon the noble and ennobling task of **"LIVING A LIFE,** in conformity with **Natures Constructive Principle** and never thereafter to falter, until he shall arrive at the goal of individual Mastership, whether that be in this life or in the great hereafter.

Just stop right here for one silent and intense moment, on the ominous significance of these five simple but magical words, **"The Living of a Life."**

Then let him ask himself how many there are today who are seeking, or who think they are seeking for the hidden mysteries and vital truths of life (the life that is and the life that is to come), who would stop, hesitate, then turn away, if they but knew what every Student of Natural Science must come to know, **viz.;** that the definite knowledge and the independent spiritual and psychical power, for which they are seeking, can never be obtained or acquired in any manner whatsoever, except, as a natural and scientific result of **the living of a life** in full and willing compliance with the **Constructive Principle of Nature in Individual Life.**

From what I have now said and herein before written, I firmly **believe** that I have shown conclusively the source from which Masonry originated and where we received the System of Morality upon which it is founded. In doing this, I have also proven beyond doubt its Antiquity.

We will now proceed to answer the question—What is **FREE-MASONRY?** But before doing so, we will answer the question—**WHAT IS MASONRY** first, and then show What Free-Masonry is, and what a Master Mason is. We shall then leave our premises and Conclusions in your hands, in the open book before you.

CHAPTER XVIII.

Masonry and Free-Masonry

At the commencement of this volume we told you that Masonry is a peculiar system of Morality, veiled in Allegory and illustrated by Symbols. In this volume we shall omit the Legends, Allegories and Symbols, confining ourselves strictly to Morality.

The T. K. in the Great Work informs us, at page 184, **et sep.—"SCIENCE"**—Is the exact knowledge of the Facts of Nature, classified and systematized."

"FAITH—Is the established relation, which the facts of Nature sustain to each other and to the Individual Intelligence or the Soul of Man."

"PHILOSOPHY—Is the conclusion, which man in his search for Knowledge of Truth, has drawn from the Facts of Science."

Religion—"Is the application of the Facts of Science and the conclusions of Philosophy to individual Life and Conduct."

From this viewpoint it will be observed that Science has reference alone to the phenomena of nature—the terms 'facts' and 'phenomena' meaning the same thing."

Truth has reference to the relations which the phenomena of nature, sustain to each other and to the Individual Intelligence. By reference to the defi-

nition of **'Morality'** it will be observed that the entire problem of Ethics or Morals falls within this field."

Philosophy has reference to the deductions, which men have drawn from nature in their search for Truth.

Religion is merely the application of such knowledge as we possess to the problems of individual life and conduct.

It will now be apparent to those who have followed the subject closely, that, from the viewpoint of the Great School, science and philosophy and religion are in no sense conflicting Schools. They do not antagonize each other in their essential nature. On the contrary, they are, in truth concomitant factors in the same great problem of individual life and unfoldment. And Truth is the vital element which relates them all.

It is also possible now to see and understand the clear principle of relationship between religion and morality. MORALITY, it will be remembered, **is the established harmonic relation which Man, as an Individual Intelligence sustains to the Constructive Principle of Nature.** While Religion is the application of such knowledge as we possess, to the problem of individual life and conduct, in such manner as to maintain that harmonic relation, the inevitable result of which is conformance with the Constructive Principle of Nature.

But the process involved in such a life is one which also and at the same time, develops within the individual the state or condition of Constructive

Spirituality on which alone Spiritual Independence and Mastership depend.

"What does all this mean? Simply this, that Natural Science and True Religion, after all, are one and the same thing. An understanding of this great **Truth,** makes of science a religion and lifts religion to a basis of exact science. To make this clear and certain to the mind of the reader is one of the definite purposes of this chapter.

"Briefly summarizing: The Great School has discovered and formulated a definite system. It is based upon experiment and demonstration through personal experience. It constitutes a Scientific Formulary. Its foundation is Morality. Its application is Religion. It is Constructive in its essential nature. It is Evolutionary in its essential character. Its purpose is the development of Constructive Spirituality. Its results is Spiritual Independence and Mastership.

Rudolf Eucken informs us that Religions, Morality and the Morality of Reason, have come down to us from past ages and grew out of an inner world of Thought.

The most effectual kind of Morality is as the T. K. says—**The religious one.** Because, it completely severs moral action from all natural inclination, disassociates it from all external performance, and give it a purely spiritual character. It supplies a most powerful impulse to action by connecting man's destiny with his attitude to his moral obligations. The awakening and ennobling power inherent in what Christ the Master preached and practiced, was not confined to Individuals, but was embodied in a large

section of the human race, creating a spiritual atmosphere, which still acts powerfully on individual souls, even if they themselves are not conscious of it. Religions, morality, still continues to influence us in this way.

Religious Ethics do not seem to have sufficient latitude to transform the whole of life. We can therefore understand the widespread desire for something which can sufficiently supplement religion's ethics.

Religious Morality has been supplemented and completed **by the Morality of Reason,** which was developed in the hoary ages of the past, by the learned men of Ancient India, down to the philosophers of the present day. Here Morality does not proceed from a superior and Divine Will. But from Man's own reasonable nature. This nature seems to demand recognition of a universal Law and voluntary submission to it, only then does man bring his own being to perfection. The Morality arising herefrom is strong and manly, it incites man to a proud independence of Spirit and exalts him far above every day life. To this morality of reason we owe the scientific development of the moral world of Thought and the distinct formulations of conceptions, like Duty and Conscience.

Let me positively assure you that MORALITY IS AN EXACT SCIENCE, just as surely and truly as any other so-called "exact science." And the Great School positively declares in unmistakable terms that Morality is as truly and as definitely a matter of science as is chemistry. And this fact has not only

been taught throughout the ages by the Great Brotherhood of India, thousands of years before the foundations of the pyramids of Egypt were laid, or the Sphinx, looked to the East. Which was long centuries before Abraham was born. Moses lifted from the bosom of the Nile, Solomon the Wise King of Isreal, or Christ the Master was over dreamed of. And yet these very Men learned the Science from the School of the Masters and they taught and demonstrated it in their own Lives. And Masonry received and gave or gives it to every member who is Worthy and Well Qualified to Receive it. And he who so receives it realizes that it is his bounden Duty to demonstrate this progressive philosophy in his own Life.

Because, the Members of the Great School today, as well as the Students of the various Masonic Clubs, every where, are endeavoring to educate men and Masons to a higher plane of spiritual unfoldment. To give humanity a thorough and comprehensive knowledge of **Moral Laws and Principles.** So that they might be enabled to **"LIVE THE LIFE"** and **Prove the Law.**

Now, my dear Brothers, if Morality is an Exact Science—and **we** know that it is—not only because the Master says so, but **because we have proven it for ourselves.**

The definition of the **Word "MORALITY"** is—"The established harmonic relation which Man as an Individual Intelligence sustains to the Constructive Principle of his own Being." From this definition we realize the fact that—There can be no Soul growth without it. That **MORALITY is the very foundation**

of Constructive Spirituality. That on the Ethical plane of Being, it builds up that beautiful Temple of MORAL CHARACTER. And it continues to do so, just as long as man conforms his Life to the Constructive Principle of Nature. Which is "That Principle in Nature which impels every entity to seek vibratory correspondence with another like entity of opposite polarity." Therefore, from the above we find that Man must depend upon this Principle for all the possibilities of his Soul. If he will conform his Life to the Constructive Principle of Nature and **"LIVE THE LIFE" he will prove the Law** for himself. If every Mason would keep his first promise—**Learn to subdue his passions and Improve himself in Masonry (MORALITY)** he would "Live the Life." And he would fully realize the fact, that no destructive force could in any way affect him. And he would also realize the fact that—**Constructive Spirituality could not exist in Individual Life, except it is built upon and sustained by Morality.**

This is just exactly what Scottish Rite Masonry of the Southern Jurisdiction and the Schools of Masonic Clubs teaches. And what the Great School of the Masters has ever taught and what it positively asserts today, that—**The foundation of Moral Principle, must, be laid before any Man or Mason, can Receive Spiritual Knowledge or know how to rightly use it, for either himself or for the benefit of others. Therefore, every Master Mason, who keeps his—First Promise and fulfills his Obligations and conforms his Life to the Constructive Principle of Nature and to the practice of Moral Principles, is most assuredly—**

"LIVING THE LIFE." And this, my dear Friends and Brothers, is—FREE-MASONRY.

In the preceding pages we have answered the question—**WHAT IS FREE-MASONRY?** In doing so we have shown you its Origin and proven its Antiquity. Therefore, in order to complete what I had in mind, when I started this little volume, I will quote you an article written by my very dear Friend and Brother, **John L. Travis, of Savannah, Georgia:**

CHAPTER XIX.

What a Master Mason Is

(By John L. Travis, Savannah, Georgia)

"A Master Mason is a man who has truly learned to subdue his passions and has improved himself in Masonry.

"Let us examine into this definition a little. What is that Masonry in which a man must 'improve himself' to become a Master?

" 'Masonry is a beautiful system of morality, veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols.'

"But what is Morality? 'Morality is the established harmonic relation which Man, as an Individual Intelligence, sustains to the Constructive Principle of Nature.' But in other words: 'Morality is Man's established harmonic relation to the Constructive Principle of his own being.'—The Great Work.

"Masonry throughout its whole fabric is constructive, and its allegories are based on the operations of building, or aligning one's self with the Great Constructive Principle of Nature and of one's own being.

"Before a building is erected, however, the materials are first set apart or 'devoted' to the work. Hence, a Master Mason must first have devoted or set apart his own powers and capacities to the work of building a Spiritual Temple. And he must have done this freely and voluntarily. This material must be sound,

hence an inward preparation, one in the heart, is first requisite. For as out of the heart come the issues of life and death, so if the material be unsound at heart, the building erected therefrom cannot withstand the assaults of time or the attacks of the elements, even if it can bear its own weight.

"The material then being examined and found without blemish and well-fitted to be used for the proposed building, all irregularities and excrescences must be removed. This the Master Mason has done by the constant use of the Gavel of his Will, guided and tested by the Square of his Conscience. By these instruments he has removed from his life all its vices and superfluities and has prepared himself 'as a living stone, for that spiritual temple, that house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.'

"Having proceeded thus far in the line of constructive effort, he has laid the foundation of his Spiritual Temple, using the plumb of uprightness, in thought and heart as well as in words and professions, for the plumb admonished him to build upward ever. He has also used the level of equality and brotherly love, by which he has not only driven out arrogance and pride and arbitrary conduct towards others, but has also instilled courtesy, kindness, and humility. All this he has squared by the square of virtue, justice, strict rectitude, and duty, both towards his fellow man and himself. For no carpenter would undertake a building without a square, neither can a man progress in the work of Spiritual Building without incorruptible virtue and purity of thought, word and deed; nor with-

out the full performance of every duty, to whomsoever owed.

"And he has covered this foundation with a Mosaic pavement, reminding him to accept good and evil fortune with equanimity, that light and shadow, good and evil, prosperity and adversity, are to be expected equally by all men; that no matter what his possessions, whether wealth, intellect, knowledge, power, or health, they are but lent to him to use rightly, and that he cannot reasonably expect to enjoy them without paying the price—and if he refuse to pay, they may be taken from him.

"No profane man, nor one who habitually takes the name of God in vain, no swearer, drunkard, libertine, retailer of filthy stories, no dishonest man, no man who is a glutton, or covetous or cruel or vain, or haughty, or intolerant, or cross, or impatient, or quick to anger without cause, can properly be called a Master Mason. How can he be a Master until he can control himself?

"The foundations of Masonic character are Brotherly Love and Humility, Uprightness, and Virtue. If any part of this foundation is taken away, the whole building must fall.

"The foundation laid, the Master Mason has learned to rise over and upon his appetites and passions, to turn them into the columns that support and adorn his edifice. He does not despise his body, nor seek to destroy his natural appetites, but learns to turn them each to Constructive uses. And it may be said in passing that when his Temple is completed,

these very "appetites and passions" of the physical man (or is it not more probably their spiritual counterparts)—the stone which the builders rejected—become the headstone of the corner, the keystone of the gateway to spiritual knowledge and real happiness.

"The Master Mason has also improved himself, as far as possible, in the liberal arts and sciences. He is a man of liberal and generous mind, who is ever seeking more knowledge, or for more self gratification or intellectual pleasure, but that he may be more useful to his fellow-men.

"He also knows when he comes to the river of spirituality, and can tell what he wishes to cross, and whither he is going. He has not abandoned his undertaking, as did the Ephriamites, and turned back after setting his hand to the plow, but has steadily gone forward, regardless of all temptations and despite all opposition.

"He is of such tried courage that Death has no terrors for him, nor can the present and imminent threat of it deter him from his duty or induce him to betray a trust. His integrity is dearer to him than his life. For he knows that death is but a phantom, feared by ignorance, and to the wise man no more than the laying aside of one's garments when the hour for rest has come.

"In all this labor, the Master Mason has been clothed in innocence, as with a garment,—the innocence of knowledge of the truth. He has scattered around him (and thereby increased) a love for all mankind, a toleration recognizing that each man has a right of his own opinions and that he who persecutes

for opinion's sake thereby usurps the prerogative of God. He has sympathized with the sorrows of all the world and done what he could to alleviate suffering. And he has learned to look with pitying sympathy upon diseases of the spirit and the intellect, as he would upon those of the body, with neither hatred nor anger, nor the desire to punish or persecute. Also, he has a profound Faith in God, which is in equilibrium with his Intelligent Reason.

"Such a man will not be found seeking Masonic office, and will accept such office only as an invitation and opportunity to do more good; will not complain if the 'honors' of Masonry are given to another and not to him; will be self-controlled, courteous, considerate, sympathetic, and kind to all; will understand something of the true meaning of Masonic symbolism; and will be an exemplar of what is highest and best in humanity.

"Such a man may be justly called a Master Mason. Such a man is the owner in fee simple of a Spiritual Temple in that country where neither moth nor rust corrupts and where thieves do not break through and steal.

"Are there such men? There always have been, and always will be, thank God. By their fruits ye shall know them."

CONCLUSION

In the last chapter we gave you some idea of what a **Master Mason** is. Now I desire to quote you a poem written by that distinguished and celebrated Scottish poet and first Poet Laureate of Free-Masonry, who was born in Scotland on the 25th day of January, 1759, adjacent to the town of Ayr. He died on the 22nd day of January, 1796. He was an enthusiastic Mason and devoted himself to giving the Craft wholesome instruction. I need not speak of his poetry and literature for it is too well known throughout the world universal. He was a Past Master of his lodge in Scotland and he expected to leave his native home to go to Jamaica in consequence of which he wrote his farewell to one of his lodge brethren in the following poetical lines.

My reason for publishing the poem is to show you my dear Brothers, that in the latter part of the 18th century we were known as **"SONS OF LIGHT"** to the Masonic student and as I have shown in the body of the work that our revered Brother, the late General Albert Pike loved to call all those who had been **Duly and Truly prepared,** and who were worthy and well qualified to be called a **MASTER-MASON.**

Adieu; a heart-warm, found adieu;
Dear Brothers of the **Mystic Tie**;
Ye favour'd ye enlighten'd few,
Companions of my social joy;
Tho' I to foreign lands must hie,
Pursuing Fortune's slidd'ry ba';
With melting heart and brimful eye
I'll mind you still, tho' far awa.

Oft have I met your social band,
And spent the cheerful, festive night;
Oft honor'd with supreme command,
Presided o'er the **Sons of Light**;
And by that **Hieroglyphic** bright
Which none but **Craftsmen** ever saw;
Strong mem'ry on my heart shall write
Those happy scenes, when far awa.

May Freedom, Harmony, and Love,
Unite you in the **Grand Design,**
Beneath th' Omniscient Eye above—
The glorious **Architect** Divine—
That you may keep th' **Unerring Line,**
Still rising by the Plummet's Law,
Till **Order** bright completely shine,
Shall be my pray'r, when far awa.

And You farewell; whose merits claim
Justly that **Highest Badge** to wear:
Heav'n bless your honor'd noble name,
To Masonry and Scotia dear;
A last request permit me here,
When early ye assemble a',
One round, I ask it with a tear,
To him, the Bard, that's far awa.

In concluding this volume I do most earnestly desire to impress upon your mind and soul that—

MASONRY is a most profound progressive scientific philosophy. And its progression rests upon the prectice of **Morality.** And the "Living of a Life." It is founded on **TRUTH** or the great fundamental **Law** of **EQUITY, JUSTICE** and **RIGHT** which runs through all the manifestations and differentiations in the Kosmos, from Atom to Man. Let me distinctly impress upon your mind that—Masonry is a Teacher of Great Truths. It is the container of all the Wisdom that belonged to the learned men of every epoch of the World's history. It teaches to all Masonic students how to **"Live the Life"** in accord with the constructive Principle of Nature, which is—**Creative, Formative, Integrating, Developing, Organizing and Evolutionary in its nature.** It teaches every Masonic student who has been "Duly and Truly Prepared" how to develop all those **Faculties,** Capacities and Powers that lie dormant within the sanctuary of his own soul. A knowledge of which will enable him to **"Keep his First Promise and Live the Life."** And do not forget that —**MASONRY** is a most profound progressive scientific philosophy, whose basic principles are laid on the foundation of **MORALITY.**

FREE-MASONRY is the practicing in his daily life what Masonry stands for and what it teaches. Free-Masonry is the **"Living of a Life"** in accord with the Constructive Principle of Nature. Because he has now through the development of his Faculties, Capacities and Powers, learned how to use the two great Factors that will enable him to do so—**PERSONAL EFFORT and SELF-CONTROL.** Through a knowledge of Masonry the Free-Mason positively

knows that man is not the highest being in Nature's evolutionary processes, but that he has the potentiality of becoming so if he chooses the Moral or Constructive pathway that leads to higher planes of Spiritual development and to **LIGHT and TRUTH. Masonry teaches that Man is not a mere Automaton.** That man has a **FREE-WILL.** That man is a Free, Moral agent. That he can positively choose to be good and do good or evil if he may so desire. Because he knows that he has a Freedom of choice. He also knows that —if he wants to die the death of the Righteous, he must **"LIVE THE LIFE."** Therefore, from what I have said above you, my dear Brothers, must now realize the fact that **a Free-Mason is one who practices and preaches what Masonry teaches and in so doing he follows the dictates of his own conscience. He is a believer in FREEDOM OF THOUGHT. Freedom of conscience, FREE SPEECH, FREE SCHOOLS and a Free Government for the people and by the people —THIS IS FREE-MASONRY.**

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